MARVEL
©1980 MARVEL ENT GROUP INC
$1.25 US
$1.75 CAN
18
UK 50p
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE
AUTHORITY
MARVEL® COMICS
PRESENTS
FOUR ALL-NEW FEATURES
THE
BLACK PANTHER®
THE SENSATIONAL
SHE-HULK™
DOLL
SAYS 7 INTERESTING PHRASES
MADE IN
CYCLOPS
ALL PLASTIC ASSEMBLY KIT
TO THE THING™

MARVEL® COMICS PRESENTS™

Cover by JOHN BYRNE
TERRY KAVANAGH editor
MICHAEL ROCKWITZ
assistant editor
TOM DeFALCO
editor in
chief

Stan Lee Presents:

CYCLOPS "THE RETRIBUTION AFFAIR" 1

WRITER — Bob Harras
PENCILER — Ron Lim
INKER — Bruce Patterson
LETTERER — Augustin Mas
COLORIST — Andy Yanchus

"PLAGUE IN THE NIGHT" PART 2 OF 8

Journeying to Muir Island at the request of an old friend, Cyclops finds himself attacked by an unseen adversary. He discovers that Moira MacTaggert, the mistress of the island, is deeply involved. In an attempt to investigate what is happening, he becomes more involved in a strange and deadly mystery.

BLACK PANTHER "PANTHER'S QUEST" 9

WRITER — Don McGregor
PENCILER — Gene Colan
INKER — Tom Palmer
LETTERER — Joe Rosen
COLORIST — Glynis Oliver

"NAKED EXPOSURES" — PART 6 OF 25

The Black Panther has defended himself against mercenaries led by Elmer "Sex 'n' Violence" Gore, and South African security forces since has arrived in a black township. He has come to learn if an artifacts store owner named Patrick Slade really knows if the mother he has not seen since he was a child is still alive. Zanti Chikane, a goldminer, reluctantly gives the barbed wire gouged and bloodied panther aid. But this is a place imminently hostile not only to the great cat!

SHE-HULK 17

WRITER — John Byrne
PENCILER — John Byrne
INKER — Bob Wiacek
LETTERER — Michael Heisler
COLORIST — George Roussos

"X-MAS TEASE. . ."

Her own book cancelled! Her association with the Fantastic Four and the Avengers broken! The ever-sensational She-Hulk awaits the coming of Christmas, and those aren't visions of sugar plums dancing in her head!

WILLIE LUMPKIN 25

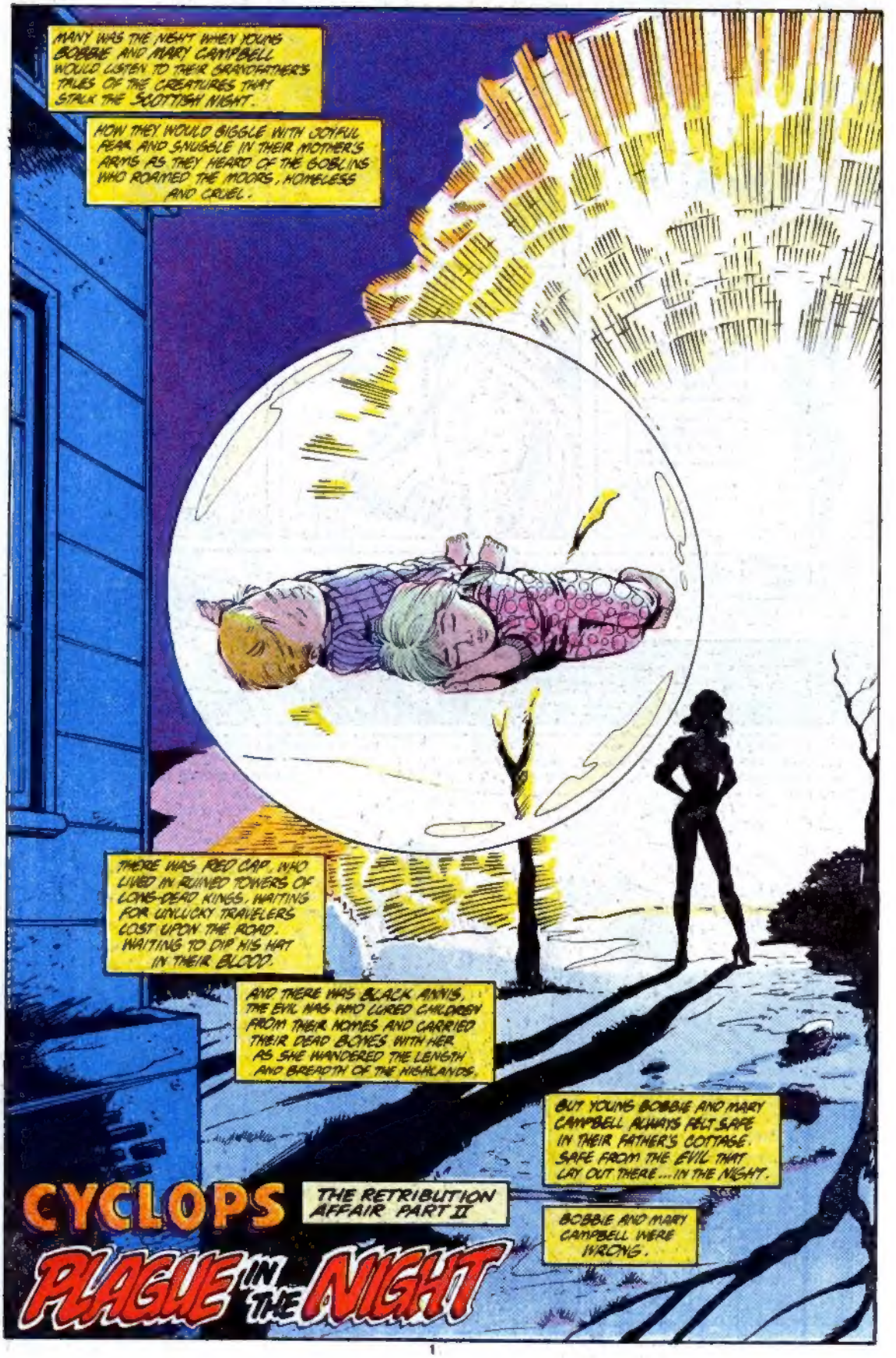
WRITER — Glenn Herdling
PENCILER — Richard Howell
INKER — Joe Sinnott
LETTERER — Jack Morelli
COLORIST — Richard Howell

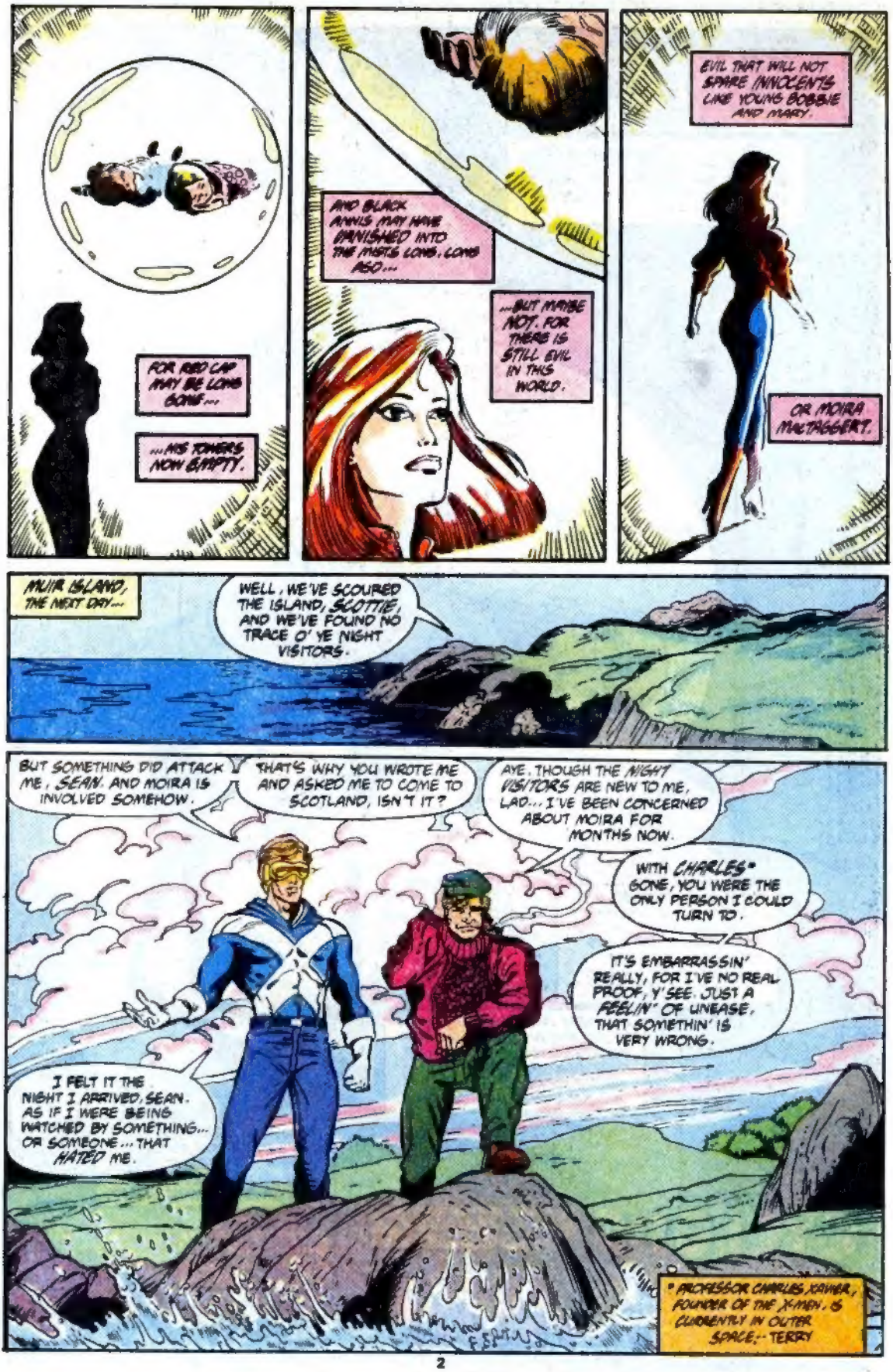
"A CHRISTMAS CARD"

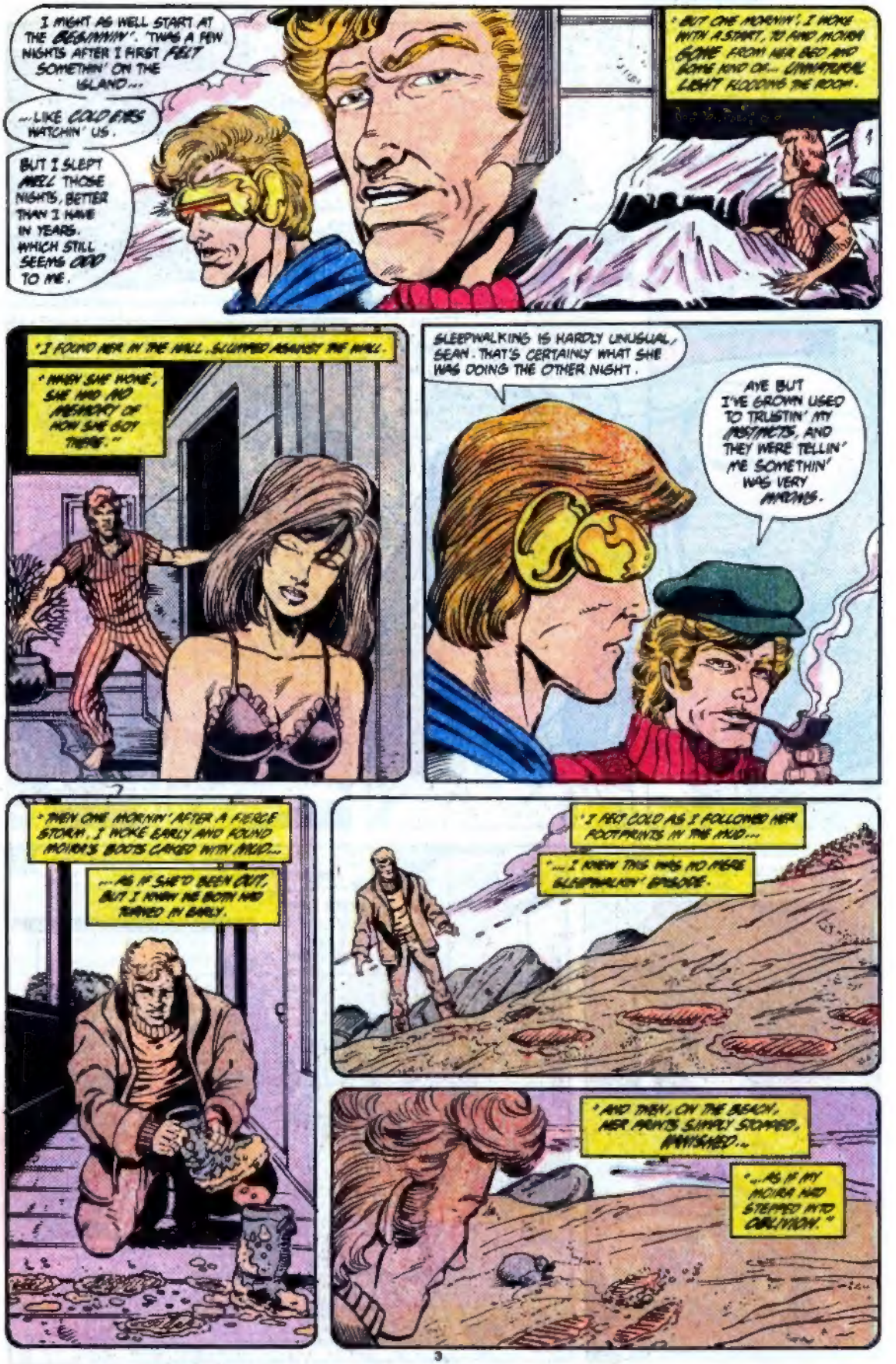
A plodding, pixilated postman from the Midwest, Willie Lumpkin never dreamed he would one day deliver mail to the super hero family known as the Fantastic Four. Tonight, however, on Christmas Eve, the good-natured Willie must save his immortal soul from a misdirected spirit's act of "redemption"—alone!

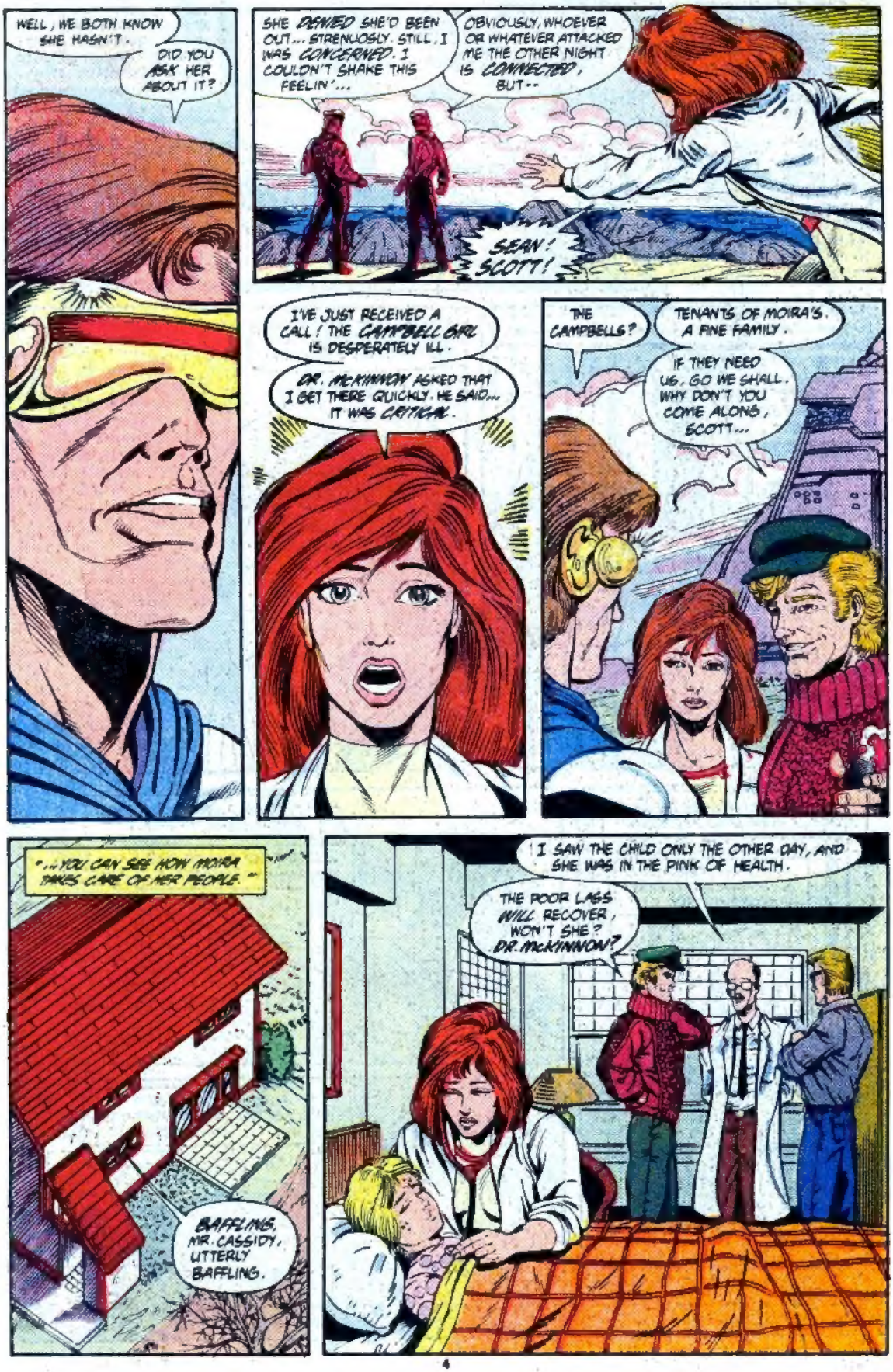
MARVEL® COMICS PRESENTS™ Vol. 1, No. 18, Early May, 1989. Published by MARVEL COMICS, A NEW WORLD COMPANY, James E. Galton, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Michael Hobson, Group Vice-President. Milton Schiffman, Vice-President, Production. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. Published bi-weekly.

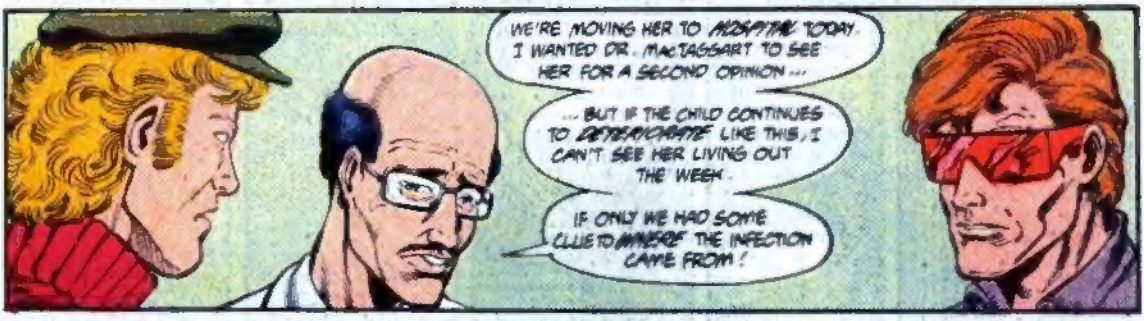
Copyright © 1989 by Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All rights reserved. Price $1.25 per copy in the U.S. and $1.75 in Canada. Subscription rate $15.00 for 12 issues. Canada and Foreign, $21.00. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS (including all prominent characters featured in the issue), and the distinctive likenesses thereof, are trademarks of the MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, INC.

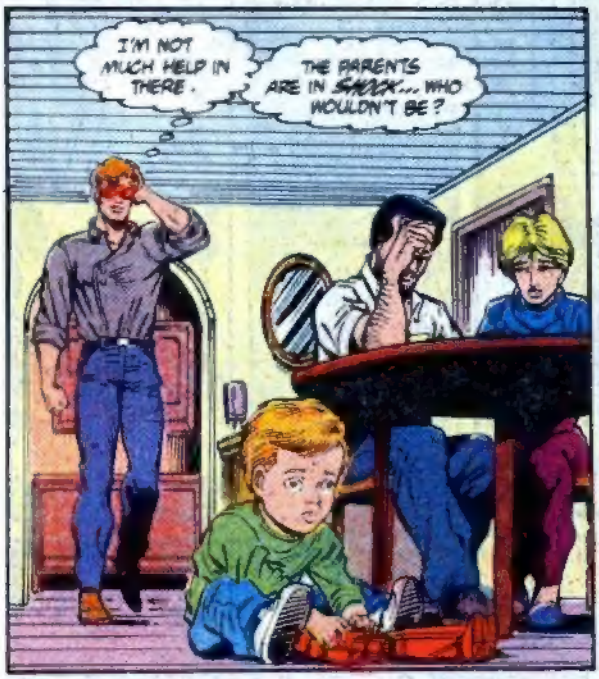

MANY WAS THE NIGHT WHEN YOUNG BOBBIE AND MARY CAMPBELL WOULD LISTEN TO THEIR GRANDFATHER'S TALES OF THE CREATURES THAT STALK THE SCOTTISH NIGHT.
HOW THEY WOULD GIGGLE WITH JOYFUL FEAR AND SNUGGLE IN THEIR MOTHER'S ARMS AS THEY HEARD OF THE GOBLINS WHO ROAMED THE MOORS, HOMELESS AND CRUEL.
THERE WAS RED CAP, WHO LIVED IN RUINED TOWERS OF LONG-DEAD KINGS, WAITING FOR UNLUCKY TRAVELERS LOST UPON THE ROAD. WAITING TO DIP HIS HAT IN THEIR BLOOD.
AND THERE WAS BLACK ANNIS, THE EVIL HAG WHO LURED CHILDREN FROM THEIR HOMES AND CARRIED THEIR DEAD BONES WITH HER AS SHE WANDERED THE LENGTH AND BREADTH OF THE HIGHLANDS.
BUT YOUNG BOBBIE AND MARY CAMPBELL ALWAYS FELT SAFE IN THEIR FATHER'S COTTAGE. SAFE FROM THE EVIL THAT LAY OUT THERE... IN THE NIGHT.
BOBBIE AND MARY CAMPBELL WERE WRONG.
CYCLOPS
THE RETRIBUTION AFFAIR PART II
PLAGUE IN THE NIGHT

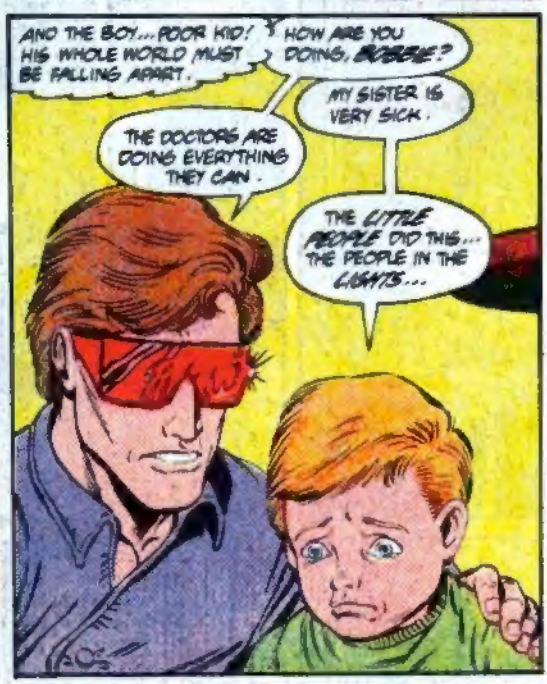

FOR RED CAP MAY BE LONG GONE...
...HIS TOWERS NOW EMPTY.
AND BLACK ANNIS MAY HAVE VANISHED INTO THE MISTS LONG, LONG AGO...
...BUT MAYBE NOT. FOR THERE IS STILL EVIL IN THIS WORLD.
EVIL THAT WILL NOT SPARE INNOCENTS LIKE YOUNG BOBBIE AND MARY.
OR MOIRA MACTAGGERT.
MUIR ISLAND, THE NEXT DAY...
WELL, WE'VE SCOURED THE ISLAND, SCOTTIE, AND WE'VE FOUND NO TRACE O' YE NIGHT VISITORS.
BUT SOMETHING DID ATTACK ME, SEAN. AND MOIRA IS INVOLVED SOMEHOW.
THAT'S WHY YOU WROTE ME AND ASKED ME TO COME TO SCOTLAND, ISN'T IT?
AYE. THOUGH THE NIGHT VISITORS ARE NEW TO ME, LAD... I'VE BEEN CONCERNED ABOUT MOIRA FOR MONTHS NOW.
WITH CHARLES* GONE, YOU WERE THE ONLY PERSON I COULD TURN TO.
IT'S EMBARRASSIN' REALLY, FOR I'VE NO REAL PROOF, Y'SEE. JUST A FEELIN' OF UNEASE, THAT SOMETHIN' IS VERY WRONG.
I FELT IT THE NIGHT I ARRIVED, SEAN. AS IF I WERE BEING WATCHED BY SOMETHING... OR SOMEONE... THAT HATED ME.
* PROFESSOR CHARLES XAVIER, FOUNDER OF THE X-MEN, IS CURRENTLY IN OUTER SPACE.-- TERRY


I MIGHT AS WELL START AT THE BEGINNIN'. 'TWAS A FEW NIGHTS AFTER I FIRST FELT SOMETHIN' ON THE ISLAND...
...LIKE COLD EYES WATCHIN' US.
BUT I SLEPT WELL THOSE NIGHTS, BETTER THAN I HAVE IN YEARS. WHICH STILL SEEMS ODD TO ME.
"BUT ONE MORNIN', I WOKE WITH A START, TO FIND MOIRA GONE FROM HER BED AND SOME KIND OF... UNNATURAL LIGHT FLOODING THE ROOM.
"I FOUND HER IN THE HALL, SLUMPED AGAINST THE WALL.
"WHEN SHE WOKE, SHE HAD NO MEMORY OF HOW SHE GOT THERE."
SLEEPWALKING IS HARDLY UNUSUAL, SEAN. THAT'S CERTAINLY WHAT SHE WAS DOING THE OTHER NIGHT.
AYE BUT I'VE GROWN USED TO TRUSTIN' MY INSTINCTS, AND THEY WERE TELLIN' ME SOMETHIN' WAS VERY WRONG.
"THEN ONE MORNIN' AFTER A FIERCE STORM, I WOKE EARLY AND FOUND MOIRA'S BOOTS CAKED WITH MUD...
...AS IF SHE'D BEEN OUT, BUT I KNEW WE BOTH HAD TURNED IN EARLY.
"I FELT COLD AS I FOLLOWED HER FOOTPRINTS IN THE MUD...
"...I KNEW THIS WAS NO MERE SLEEPWALKIN' EPISODE.
"AND THEN, ON THE BEACH, HER PRINTS SIMPLY STOPPED. VANISHED...
"...AS IF MY MOIRA HAD STEPPED INTO OBLIVION."


WELL, WE BOTH KNOW SHE HASN'T.
DID YOU ASK HER ABOUT IT?
SHE DENIED SHE'D BEEN OUT... STRENUOUSLY. STILL, I WAS CONCERNED. I COULDN'T SHAKE THIS FEELIN'...
OBVIOUSLY, WHOEVER OR WHATEVER ATTACKED ME THE OTHER NIGHT IS CONNECTED, BUT--
SEAN! SCOTT!
I'VE JUST RECEIVED A CALL! THE CAMPBELL GIRL IS DESPERATELY ILL.
DR. MCKINNON ASKED THAT I GET THERE QUICKLY. HE SAID... IT WAS CRITICAL.
THE CAMPBELLS?
TENANTS OF MOIRA'S. A FINE FAMILY.
IF THEY NEED US, GO WE SHALL. WHY DON'T YOU COME ALONG, SCOTT...
"...YOU CAN SEE HOW MOIRA TAKES CARE OF HER PEOPLE."
BAFFLING, MR. CASSIDY, UTTERLY BAFFLING.
I SAW THE CHILD ONLY THE OTHER DAY, AND SHE WAS IN THE PINK OF HEALTH.
THE POOR LASS WILL RECOVER, WON'T SHE? DR. MCKINNON?


WE'RE MOVING HER TO ALEXANDRIA TODAY. I WANTED DR. MacTASSART TO SEE HER FOR A SECOND OPINION...
...BUT IF THE CHILD CONTINUES TO DETERIORATE LIKE THIS, I CAN'T SEE HER LIVING OUT THE WEEK.
IF ONLY WE HAD SOME CLUE TO WHERE THE INFECTION CAME FROM!


I'M NOT MUCH HELP IN THERE.
THE PARENTS ARE IN SHOCK... WHO WOULDN'T BE?


AND THE BOY... POOR KID! HIS WHOLE WORLD MUST BE FALLING APART.
HOW ARE YOU DOING, BOBBIE?
MY SISTER IS VERY SICK.
THE DOCTORS ARE DOING EVERYTHING THEY CAN.
THE LITTLE PEOPLE DID THIS... THE PEOPLE IN THE LIGHTS...

WHAT LIGHTS, BOBBIE?
SCOTT, WE'LL BE MOVING MARY TO HOSPITAL IN A FEW MINUTES. COULD YOU HELP DR. McKINNON?
OF COURSE.

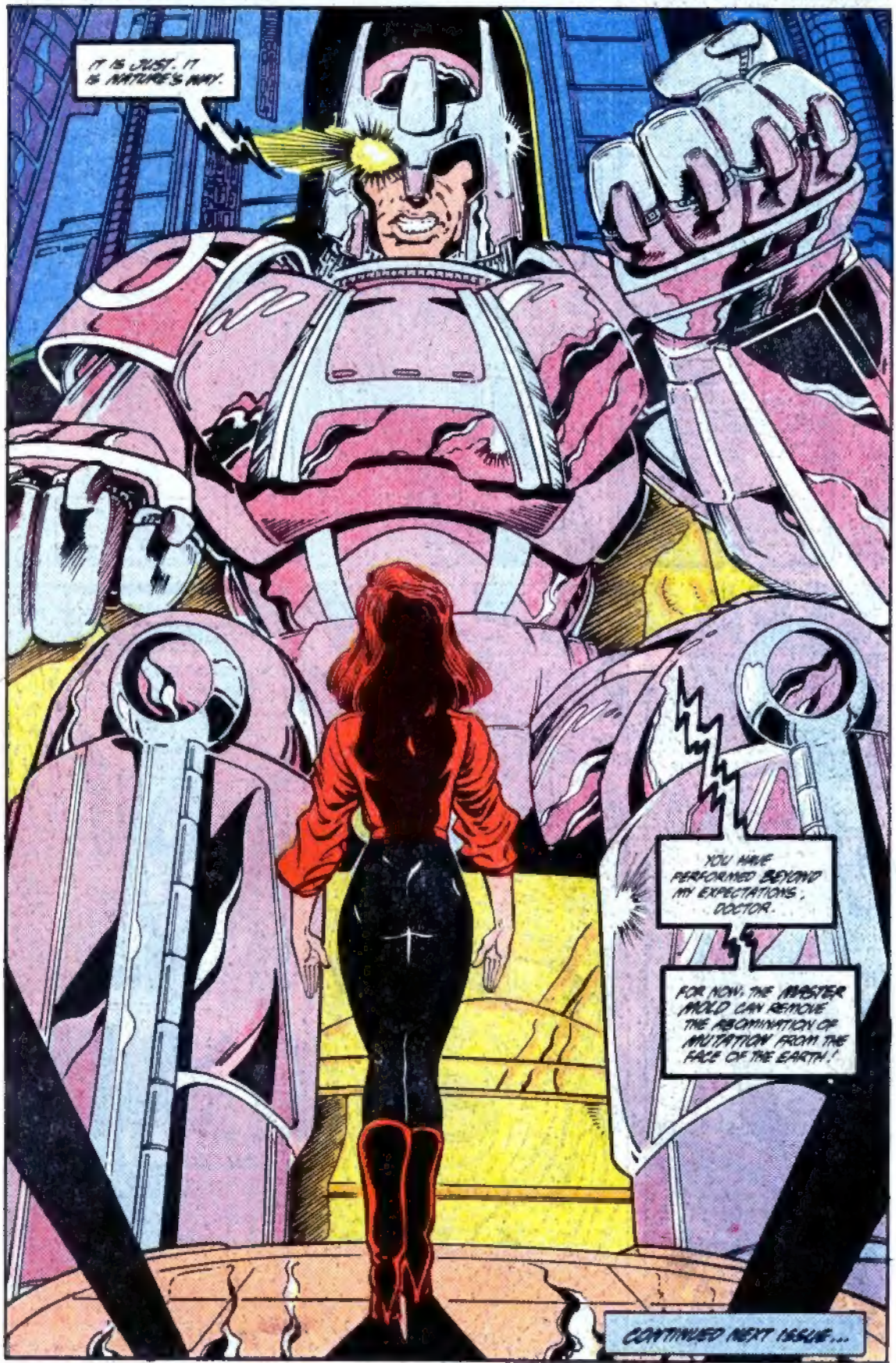
OH, SEAN! SHE'S BURNING UP, DYING RIGHT IN FRONT OF US... I FEEL SO HELPLESS!

SHE'S ONLY A BABY! WHY DOES THIS HAVE TO HAPPEN?
COME, MOIRA, YOU'RE DOING ALL YOU CAN.

THAT NIGHT...
...AN UNEASY DARKNESS SETTLES OVER MUIR ISLAND.
A DARKNESS BROKEN BY A FLOATING COLD, WHITE LIGHT...
...EVEN AS AN EVERMORE'S REST IS SHATTERED BY A SILENT CALL.
THE LIGHT SHIELD, AS THE HUM OF DEADLY HARNESSED ENERGIES BUILDS IN INTENSITY...
WHA--?
ZAAT!
MOVE IT, SUMMERS!

SHRAK!
GOT IT!
THE BEACON SUMMONS, AND, AS ALWAYS, SHE RESPONDS...
SOME SORT OF HUNTER MISSILE--IT WAS SECONDS FROM FIRING ITS BLAST WHEN I WOKE UP...
SOMEONE DEFINITELY DOESN'T WANT ME AROUND HERE
THE NIGHT AIR IS CHILL, AND THE SOUND OF THE SURF ECHOES EVERYWHERE...
...BUT MOIRA MACTAGGERT IGNORES IT ALL.

FOR ALL THAT EXISTS TO HER IS THE LIGHT.
SEAN! MOIRA! GET UP!
THE INTRUDERS ARE BACK!
BAM BAM
BAM
FOR THE LIGHT IS WARM AND INVITING AS IT ENVELOPS HER...
OKAY, FOLKS-- I SAID WE HAVE A PROBLEM!
BA SH
SEAN!
THE GIRL IS INFECTED?
YES, WHILE HER BROTHER IS UNAFFECTED. HIS GENETIC STRUCTURE REJECTED THE VIRUS, AS WE EXPECTED. BUT IT THRIVES IN THE ENVIRONMENT OF HER SYSTEM.
GOOD. SHE WAS BORN WITH A CURSE. NOW SHE WILL DIE BECAUSE OF IT.


IT IS JUST. IT IS NATURE'S WAY.
YOU HAVE PERFORMED BEYOND MY EXPECTATIONS, DOCTOR.
FOR NOW, THE MASTER MOLD CAN REMOVE THE ABOMINATION OF MUTATION FROM THE FACE OF THE EARTH!
CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE...

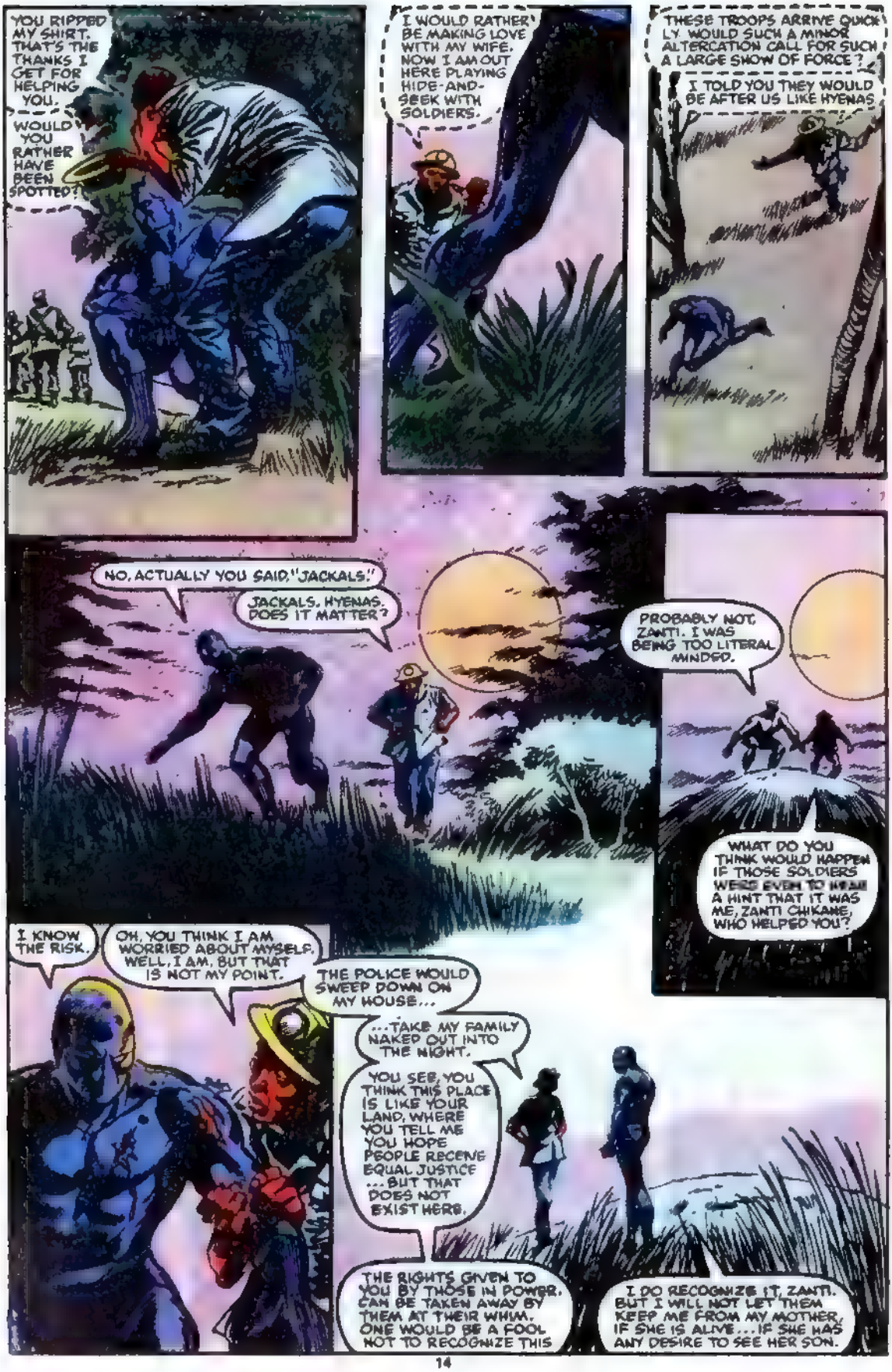
PANTHER'S QUEST
"WE HAVE NEVER GIVEN IN TO OUTSIDE DEMANDS, AND WE ARE NOT GOING TO DO SO NOW!" — ROELOF 'PIK' BOTHA, SOUTH AFRICAN STATE PRESIDENT, AUGUST 15, 1985
MAGISTRATE OF COMMUNICATIONS ANTON PRETORIUS HAS NEVER BEEN AFRAID OF TELEVISION CAMERAS STARING AT HIM WITH THEIR IMPERSONAL, REFLECTIVE, CYCLOPEAN EYES.
HE CANNOT REMEMBER EVER BEING NERVOUS BEFORE OR DURING A TELECAST INTERVIEW, NO PALPITATIONS OR SWEATY PALMS.
HE HAS BEEN TOLD BY OTHER MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT THAT HE PRESENTS CALM ASSURANCE AND DIGNIFIED COMPOSURE TO THE AUDIENCE.
HE IS PLEASED HE CAN BRING SOME REASSURANCE TO THE PEOPLE THAT WATCH HIM.
THIS IS JUST AN EXPOSURE CHECK, MAGISTRATE PRETORIUS. JUST ANOTHER MO, SIR.
IT IS IMPORTANT FOR LEADERS TO CONVEY CONFIDENCE IN THESE TURBULENT, DIVISIVE, COMPLICATED TIMES.
NAKED EXPOSURES
NAKED EXPOSURES

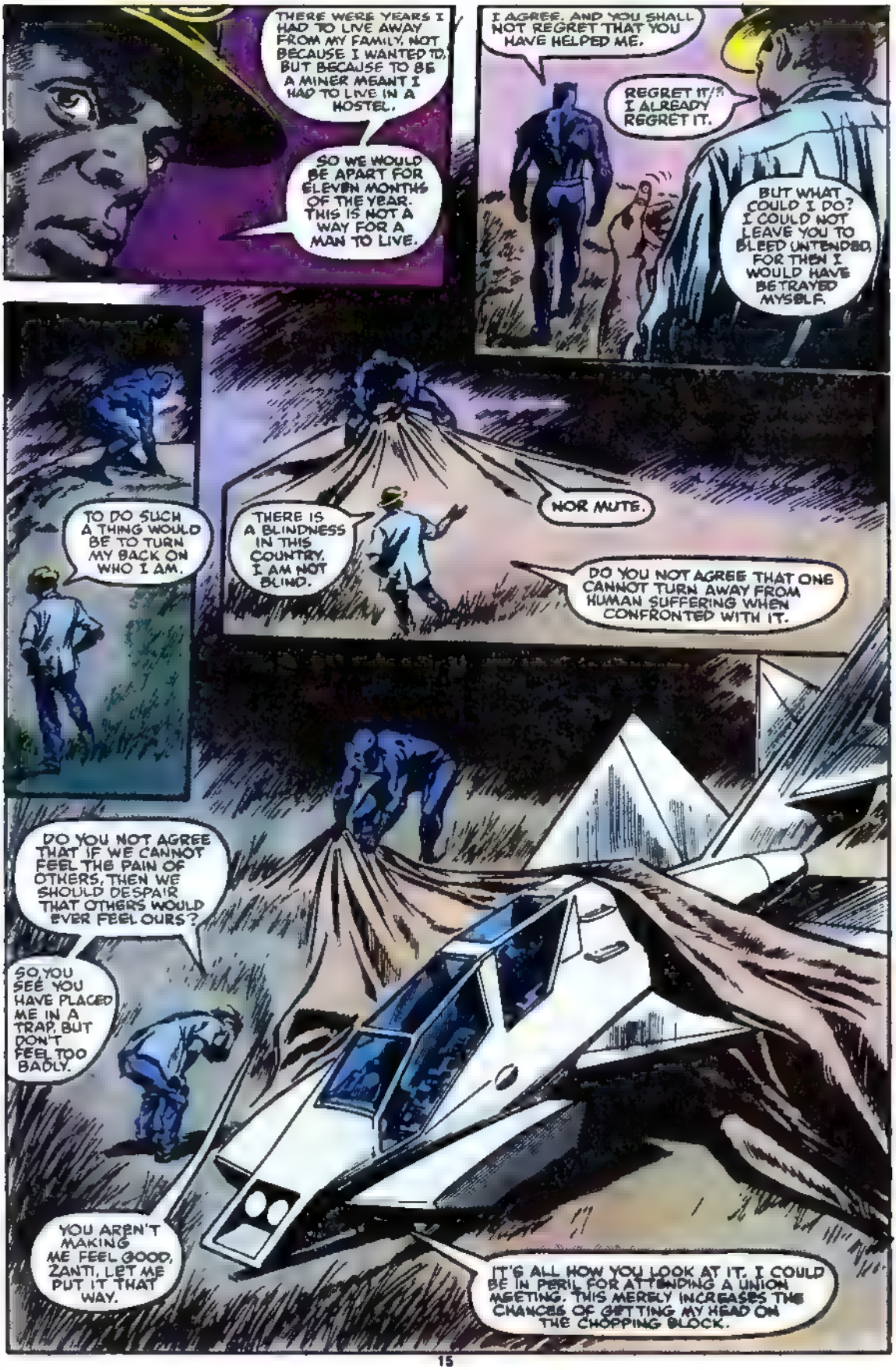
SOMETIMES, PRETORIUS FRETS, THE SITUATION IS ALL TOO COMPLICATED, AND ALL THE ANSWERS HE ACCEPTED AS TRUTH SEEM QUESTIONABLE
THE CAMERA NEVER STRIPS AWAY HIS VENEER OF ASSURANCE TO EXPOSE UNCERTAINTY.
THANK YOU, MAGISTRATE. WE'LL BE READY FOR YOUR SEGMENT IN ABOUT HALF AN HOUR
ANTON PRETORIUS NOTICES THE YOUTH'S SWOLLEN, MOTTLED CHEEKS AND SCABROUS LIPS--
--AND IT IS AS IF HE CAN FEEL THE SOLDIER'S PAIN. THE SIGHT BANISHES ANY CONFLICTING RHETORIC.
I NEVER EXPECTED TO MEET YOU, MAGISTRATE. YOU HAVE SUCH A BUSY SCHEDULE AND ALL.
NEVER THOUGHT A SCUFFLE IN ONE OF THE TOWNSHIPS WOULD GARNER THE ATTENTION OF SOMEONE OF YOUR ESTEEM.
CORPORAL BORMINE ...WHEN ONE OF MY ASSISTANTS FIRST HEARD OF YOUR ATTACK--
--AND THE DESCRIPTION OF YOUR ASSAILANT CAME WITH FOLLOW-UP BULLETINS, WE REALIZED THERE MIGHT BE INTERNATIONAL RAMIFICATIONS INVOLVED.
INTERNATIONAL? I DON'T UNDERSTAND?
FOREIGNERS HAVE TRIED TO BULLY AND COERCE OUR GOVERNMENT, YOU KNOW THAT. AS IF THEY SOMEHOW KNOW WHAT IS BEST FOR OUR COUNTRY. THEY MAKE SANCTIMONIOUS DENUNCIATIONS.
THEY IMPOSE ECONOMIC SANCTIONS--
--IF IT DOESN'T HURT THEM TOO MUCH.

THAT LOOKS VERY PAINFUL.
CAN'T SMILE. HURTS TERRIBLE IF YOU SMILE. BREAKS THE SCABS, YOU SEE.
I CAN IMAGINE. I'M SO SORRY, BUT I DID WANT TO MEET WITH YOU, PERSONALLY.
LOOK AT THIS CITY, CORPORAL BORAINE. YOU KNOW WHO MADE IT POSSIBLE? PEOPLE LIKE YOUR FATHER, AND YOUR FATHER'S FATHER. THEY BUILT CAPE TOWN WITH THEIR LIVES.
NOW, THESE FOREIGNERS I WAS SPEAKING ABOUT...
- MANY OF THEM BELIEVE AFRIKANERS SHOULD NOT INHERIT THE RESULTS OF WHAT THEY WORKED SO HARD TO BUILD.
YOU.
YOUR BROTHERS.
SISTERS.
YOU WERE BORN HERE ...YET THOSE SAME FOREIGNERS WOULD CLAIM THIS IS NOT YOUR HOMELAND.
THEY WOULD MAKE YOU VISITORS IN YOUR OWN BIRTHPLACE.

I MENTION THIS BECAUSE WE BELIEVE IT WAS A FOREIGNER WHO ATTACKED YOU, HENCE THE INTERNATIONAL IMPLICATIONS I MADE REFERENCE TO EARLIER.
WHO IS HE?
A KING OF SOME SORT OF SMALL COUNTRY... NO ONE KNOWS ITS EXACT LOCATION.
MANAGES TO KEEP HIS LITTLE NATION SECRET, EVEN FROM SATELLITE PROBES AND ALL THE SOPHISTICATED TELEMETRY THAT ORBITS THE PLANET
HOW HE MANAGES THAT IS BEYOND ME. HE HAS ALWAYS BEEN STAND-OFFISH WITH OTHER NATIONS BUT HE HAS OVERSTEPPED ANY BOUNDS NOW.
I HAVE PERSONALLY CHECKED HE HAS NO OFFICIAL STATUS HERE IN SOUTH AFRICA AND IN FACT, DID NOT APPLY FOR ENTRY OR ARRIVE AT ANY OF OUR AIRPORTS.
WE WANT TO MAKE SURE WE BROADCAST HIS IMAGE AS FAR AS WE CAN, PUT THE BRIGHT LIGHTS ON HIM, SO TO SPEAK.
HE WILL HAVE A DIFFICULT TIME ENOUGH AS IT IS KEEPING IN HIDING.
THIS IS THE MAN WHO WRACKED ME AND LEE UP! OUCH!
WE ARE GOING TO MAKE IT MUCH TOUGHER FOR HIM BELIEVE ME.
WE MAY EVEN ALLOW FOREIGN PRESS TO HAVE A FEW STORIES ON HIS UNAUTHORIZED PRESENCE AND ASSAULT ON YOU
PARLIAMENT HAS CLAMPED DOWN, RIGHTFULLY SO I THINK, ON INFLAMMATORY, BIASED NEWS STORIES.
WE ESPECIALLY HAVE TO BE WARY OF THOSE SELF-RIGHTEOUS FICKLE AMERICANS.
THINK THEY HAVE A RIGHT TO BE ANYWHERE...GO ANYWHERE...TELL EVERYONE WHAT TO DO...UNTIL THEY LOSE INTEREST.
AT ANY RATE, YOU WILL BE PLEASED TO LEARN THAT REINFORCEMENT TROOPS--
"--ARE ALREADY MOVING TOWARD THE TOWNSHIP"

HE IS SUDDENLY THE GREAT BLACK CAT
-ALERT-
-- SENSING THE TERRAIN.
HE ISN'T FROM TOWN IN THE EARTH
MEN ARE COMING LOTS OF THEM
WE'RE FAR FROM WHERE WE DITCHED THE VEHICLE AND IT'S ALL CLEAAAARR!
YOU'RE A CRAZY MAN! I KNEW IT! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
TRYING TO HIDE YOU ZAN?
KEEP YOUR VOICE DOWN


YOU RIPPED MY SHIRT. THAT'S THE THANKS I GET FOR HELPING YOU.
WOULD YOU RATHER HAVE BEEN SPOTTED?
I WOULD RATHER BE MAKING LOVE WITH MY WIFE. NOW I AM OUT HERE PLAYING HIDE-AND-SEEK WITH SOLDIERS.
THESE TROOPS ARRIVE QUICKLY. WOULD SUCH A MINOR ALTERCATION CALL FOR SUCH A LARGE SHOW OF FORCE?
I TOLD YOU THEY WOULD BE AFTER US LIKE HYENAS
NO, ACTUALLY YOU SAID, "JACKALS."
JACKALS, HYENAS, DOES IT MATTER?
PROBABLY NOT, ZANTI. I WAS BEING TOO LITERAL MINDED.
WHAT DO YOU THINK WOULD HAPPEN IF THOSE SOLDIERS WERE EVEN TO HEAR A HINT THAT IT WAS ME, ZANTI CHIKANE, WHO HELPED YOU?
I KNOW THE RISK.
OH, YOU THINK I AM WORRIED ABOUT MYSELF. WELL, I AM, BUT THAT IS NOT MY POINT.
THE POLICE WOULD SWEEP DOWN ON MY HOUSE...
...TAKE MY FAMILY NAKED OUT INTO THE NIGHT.
YOU SEE, YOU THINK THIS PLACE IS LIKE YOUR LAND, WHERE YOU TELL ME YOU HOPE PEOPLE RECEIVE EQUAL JUSTICE ...BUT THAT DOES NOT EXIST HERE.
THE RIGHTS GIVEN TO YOU BY THOSE IN POWER, CAN BE TAKEN AWAY BY THEM AT THEIR WHIM. ONE WOULD BE A FOOL NOT TO RECOGNIZE THIS
I DO RECOGNIZE IT, ZANTI. BUT I WILL NOT LET THEM KEEP ME FROM MY MOTHER, IF SHE IS ALIVE... IF SHE HAS ANY DESIRE TO SEE HER SON.

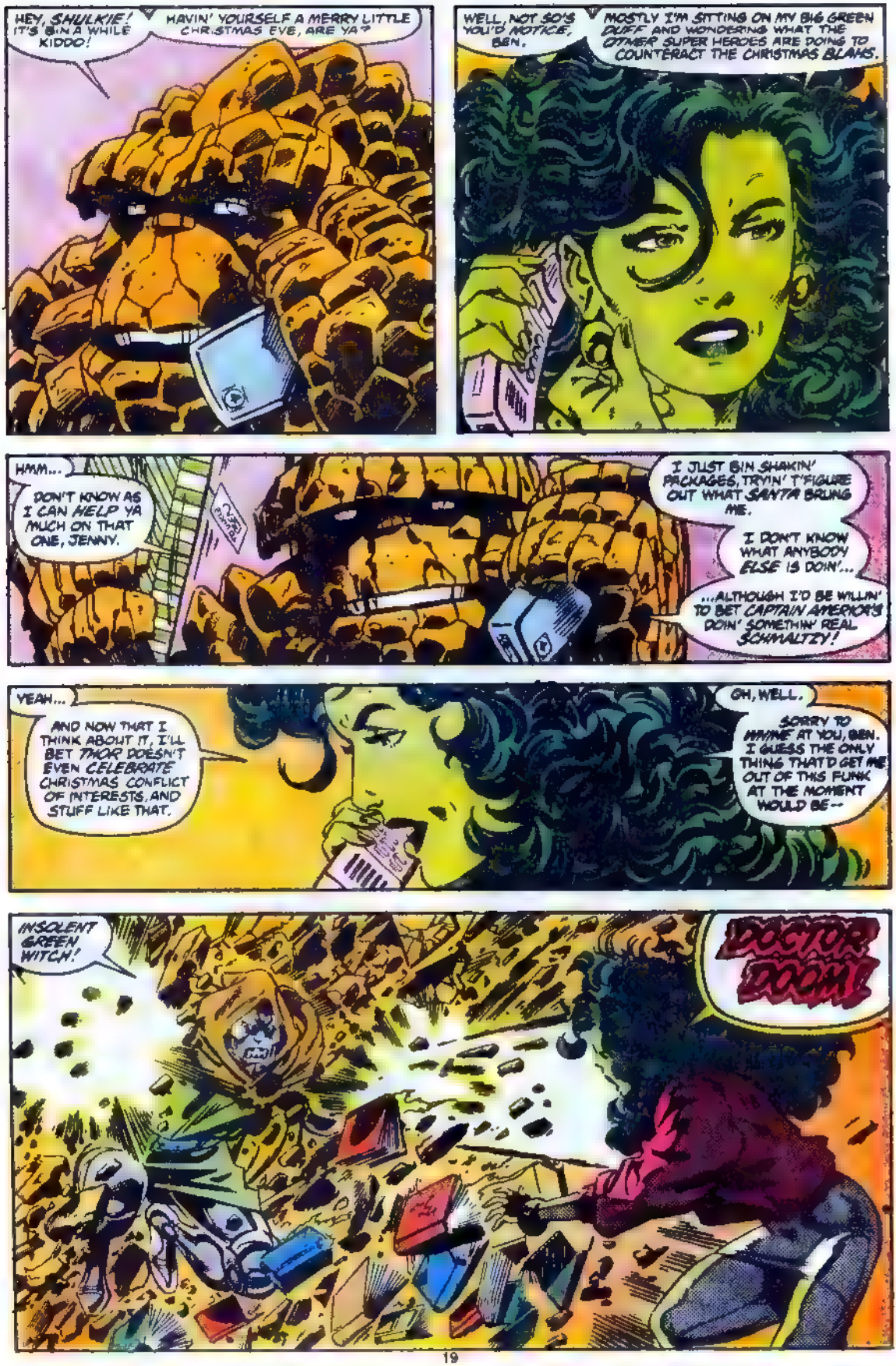

THERE WERE YEARS I HAD TO LIVE AWAY FROM MY FAMILY, NOT BECAUSE I WANTED TO, BUT BECAUSE TO BE A MINER MEANT I HAD TO LIVE IN A HOSTEL.
SO WE WOULD BE APART FOR ELEVEN MONTHS OF THE YEAR. THIS IS NOT A WAY FOR A MAN TO LIVE.
I AGREE. AND YOU SHALL NOT REGRET THAT YOU HAVE HELPED ME.
REGRET IT?! I ALREADY REGRET IT.
BUT WHAT COULD I DO? I COULD NOT LEAVE YOU TO BLEED UNTENDED, FOR THEN I WOULD HAVE BETRAYED MYSELF.
NOR MUTE.
THERE IS A BLINDNESS IN THIS COUNTRY. I AM NOT BLIND.
TO DO SUCH A THING WOULD BE TO TURN MY BACK ON WHO I AM.
DO YOU NOT AGREE THAT ONE CANNOT TURN AWAY FROM HUMAN SUFFERING WHEN CONFRONTED WITH IT.
DO YOU NOT AGREE THAT IF WE CANNOT FEEL THE PAIN OF OTHERS, THEN WE SHOULD DESPAIR THAT OTHERS WOULD EVER FEEL OURS?
SO YOU SEE YOU HAVE PLACED ME IN A TRAP, BUT DON'T FEEL TOO BADLY.
YOU AREN'T MAKING ME FEEL GOOD, ZANTI, LET ME PUT IT THAT WAY.
IT'S ALL HOW YOU LOOK AT IT. I COULD BE IN PERIL FOR ATTENDING A UNION MEETING. THIS MERELY INCREASES THE CHANCES OF GETTING MY HEAD ON THE CHOPPING BLOCK.

NOW, THIS IS SOMETHING TO SEE. YOU GOT THIS IN HERE AND THEY DIDN'T EVEN NOTICE?
IT'S A SONAR GLIDER. IT MAKES NO NOISE. I CAME IN UNDER THEIR RADAR WITH ITS CLOAKING DEVICE ON. IT'S ONLY WHEN IT'S PARKED THAT IT'S MORE SUSCEPTIBLE TO EXPOSURE.
THIS MAKES UP FOR A LOT OF THE TROUBLE YOU HAVE PUT ME THROUGH. THOUGH I TELL YOU THE TRUTH AS MUCH AS I LIKE IT, I WOULD STILL RATHER MAKE LOVE WITH MIRIAM.
I DON'T BLAME YOU.
LET'S GET INSIDE AND TURN ON THE MONITORS AND SEE IF WE CAN FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON WITH ALL THIS TROOP ACTIVITY.
CLUK
..ING TO EYE-WITNESS TESTIMONY OF THE SOLDIER ATTACKED THERE CAN BE NO MISTAKE.
THE MAN WHO ASSAULTED HIM IS THE KING OF THE WAKANDAN NATION
THIS MAN, CALLED THE BLACK PANTHER, IS HERE WITHOUT VISA...
YOU SHOULD GET THAT SALVE YOU MENTIONED AND LET ME APPLY IT TO YOUR WOUNDS
..AND WILLFULLY BYPASSED DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS. IT IS TOO EARLY TO SPECULATE WHY THIS STRANGER IS STALKING ABOUT THE TOWNSHIPS, BUT WE WILL BE ON THE ALERT FOR HIM AND YOU HAVE THE ASSURANCE OF PARLIAMENT--
-THAT EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO CAPTURE HIM.
HE WILL BE PROPERLY PUNISHED.
THEY HAVE JUST STRIPPED YOU NAKED AND PLACED YOU BEFORE ALL EYES. IT MAY HAVE BEEN HARD BEFORE TO SEARCH FOR YOUR MOTHER...
NOW IT WILL BE WORSE--
-IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE!

CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE...

IGNORE THE EVIDENCE OF YOUR SENSES.
THIS IS A BLUE LADY
HER NAME IS JENNIFER WALTERS, THOUGH TO THE WORLD AT LARGE SHE'S BETTER KNOWN AS..
THE SENSATIONAL SHE-HULK
Xmas Tease
IN HER TIME SHE HAS PLAYED MANY PARTS--
--BELOVED DAUGHTER..
...SWEETHEART...
...LAWYER...
...SUPER HERO
TODAY SHE IS EXPERIENCING SOMETHING SHE HAS NOT KNOWN SINCE THAT DAY SHE RECEIVED A GAMMA IRRADIATED BLOOD TRANSFUSION FROM HER EVEN MORE FAMOUS COUSIN, BRUCE BANNER, THE INCREDIBLE HULK...

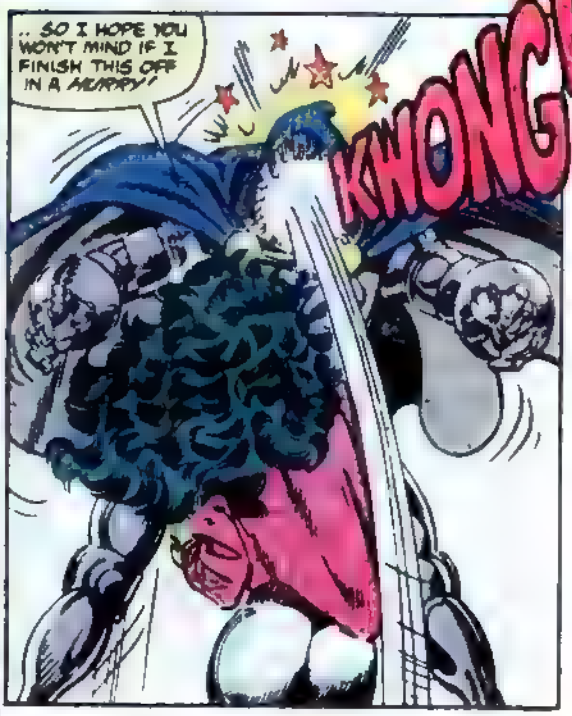
BORE-DOM!
MAN O MAN O MAN!
I CANNOT BELIEVE HOW BORED I AM!
I NEVER FIGURED THIS TO BE THE DOWN SIDE OF BEING THE SHE-HULK!
BUT AFTER TWENTY-FIVE ISSUES OF MY OWN MAG, FOLLOWED BY A FEW DOZEN AVENGERS AND FANTASTIC FOUR APPEARANCES, NOT TO MENTION A GRAPHIC NOVEL...
...ANYTHING ELSE HAS GOT TO PALE BY COMPARISON!
NO GOOD.
GOT TO FIND A WAY OUT OF THIS FUNK.
AND I KNOW ONLY ONE GUY WHO CAN PROBABLY HELP ME
LET'S SEE IF I STILL REMEMBER THE DIRECT LINE NUMBER
EVEN IN MARVEL TIME IT'S BEEN QUITE A WHILE SINCE I HAD REASON TO USE IT.
BRRRRRIIIIINNNNGGGG*
GRIMM...

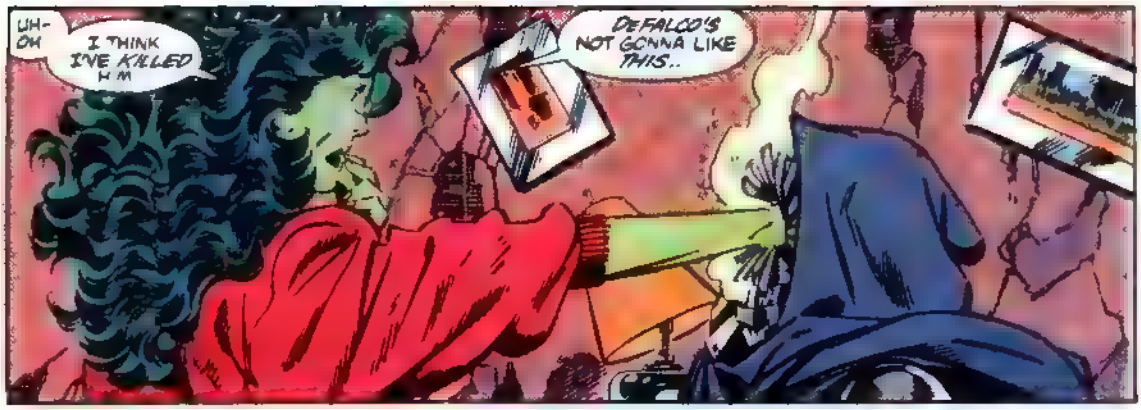

HEY, SHULKIE! IT'S BIN A WHILE KIDDO!
HAVIN' YOURSELF A MERRY LITTLE CHRISTMAS EVE, ARE YA?
WELL, NOT SO'S YOU'D NOTICE, BEN.
MOSTLY I'M SITTING ON MY BIG GREEN DUFF AND WONDERING WHAT THE OTHER SUPER HEROES ARE DOING TO COUNTERACT THE CHRISTMAS BLAHS.
HMM...
DON'T KNOW AS I CAN HELP YA MUCH ON THAT ONE, JENNY.
I JUST BIN SHAKIN' PACKAGES, TRYIN' T'FIGURE OUT WHAT SANTA BRUNG ME.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT ANYBODY ELSE IS DOIN'...
...ALTHOUGH I'D BE WILLIN' TO BET CAPTAIN AMERICA'S DOIN' SOMETHIN' REAL SCHMALTZY!
YEAH...
AND NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, I'LL BET THOR DOESN'T EVEN CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS CONFLICT OF INTERESTS, AND STUFF LIKE THAT.
OH, WELL.
SORRY TO WHINE AT YOU, BEN. I GUESS THE ONLY THING THAT'D GET ME OUT OF THIS FUNK AT THE MOMENT WOULD BE--
INSOLENT GREEN WITCH!
DOCTOR DOOM!

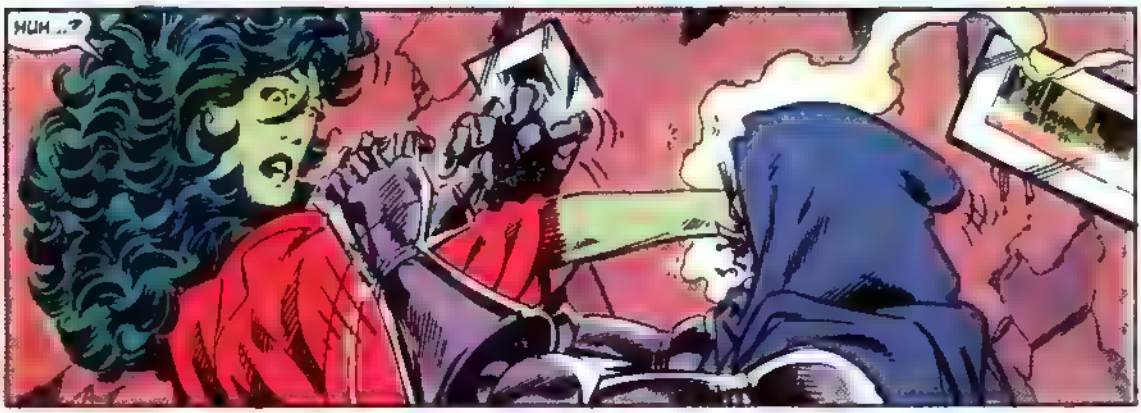
YES! DOOM! WHEN LAST WE MET I SWORE I WOULD DESTROY YOU, SHE-HULK!
AND VICTOR VON DOOM IS A MAN OF HIS WORD!
GOOD FOR YOU!
BUT DO YOU THINK WE COULD DO THIS SOMEPLACE ELSE? I MEAN, I'M ONLY APARTMENT SITTING THIS PLACE FOR FRIENDS WHO'RE IN BARBADOS!

WHAT CARE I FOR SUCH TRIVIALITIES?
MY ONLY INTEREST IS YOUR DEATH!

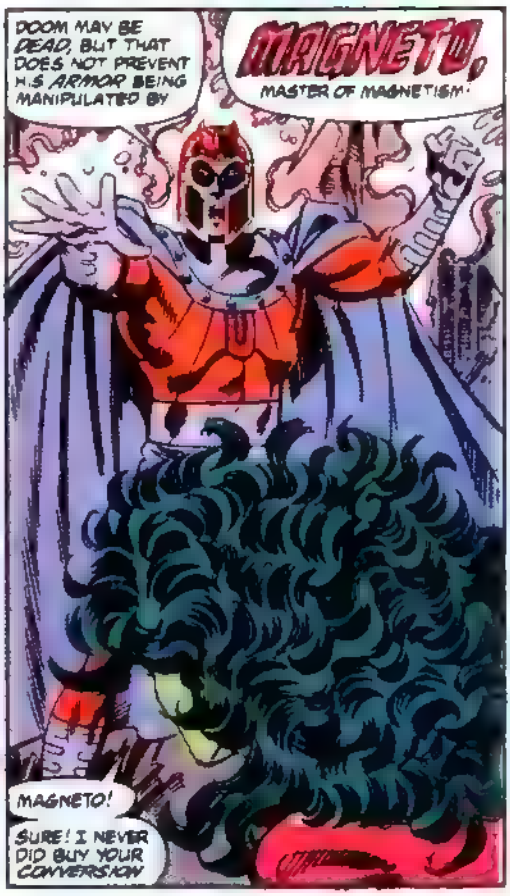
SWELL...
BUT WE'VE ONLY GOT FOUR PAGES LEFT, DOOMGIE

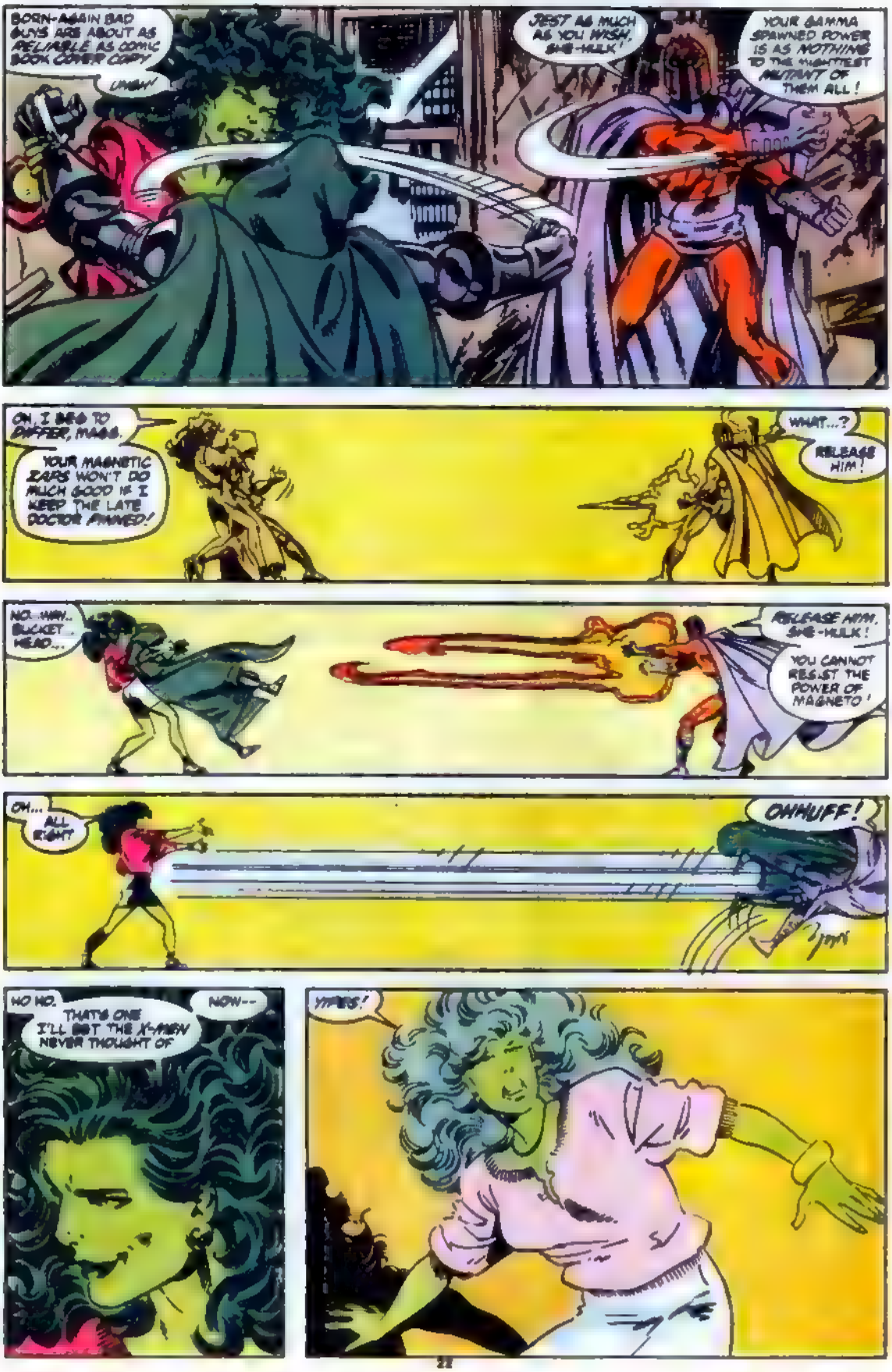

.. SO I HOPE YOU WON'T MIND IF I FINISH THIS OFF IN A HURRY!
KWONG!


UH-OH
I THINK I'VE KILLED HIM
DEFALCO'S NOT GONNA LIKE THIS..


HUH..?

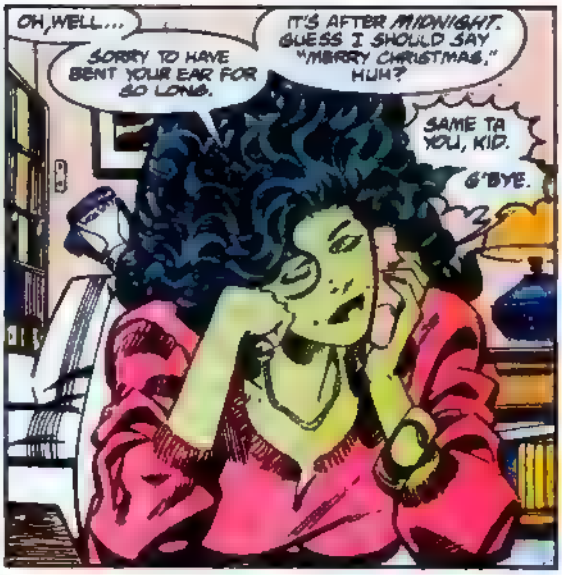
HEY! LEGGO! I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ON UNDER THIS SHIRT AND THIS IS A CODE BOOK!
HOW THE HECK ARE YOU STILL MOVING, ANYWAY, WITH YOUR HEAD TURNED TO MUSH?
ELEMENTARY, MY DEAR SHE-HULK


DOOM MAY BE DEAD, BUT THAT DOES NOT PREVENT HIS ARMOR BEING MANIPULATED BY
MAGNETO,
MASTER OF MAGNETISM.
MAGNETO!
SURE! I NEVER DID BUY YOUR CONVERSION


BORN-AGAIN BAD GUYS ARE ABOUT AS RELIABLE AS COMIC BOOK COVER COPY!
UHNH!
JEST AS MUCH AS YOU WISH, SHE-HULK!
YOUR GAMMA SPAWNED POWER IS AS NOTHING TO THE MIGHTIEST MUTANT OF THEM ALL!
OH, I BEG TO DIFFER, MAGS.
YOUR MAGNETIC ZAPS WON'T DO MUCH GOOD IF I KEEP THE LATE DOCTOR PINNED!
WHAT...?
RELEASE HIM!
NO...NNH.. BUCKET-HEAD...
RELEASE HIM, SHE-HULK!
YOU CANNOT RESIST THE POWER OF MAGNETO!
OH... ALL RIGHT
OHHUFF!
HO HO.
THAT'S ONE I'LL BET THE X-MEN NEVER THOUGHT OF
NOW--
YYYES!

HOLY MOEBIUS!
GALACTUS!
YEAH.

YEAH, I CAN SEE WHERE THAT WOULD BREAK UP YOUR BLAHS, SHULKIE.
'COURSE IT MIGHT JUST WRECK EVERYBODY ELSE'S CHRISTMAS AT TH' SAME TIME.
YEAH...
I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT, BEN.

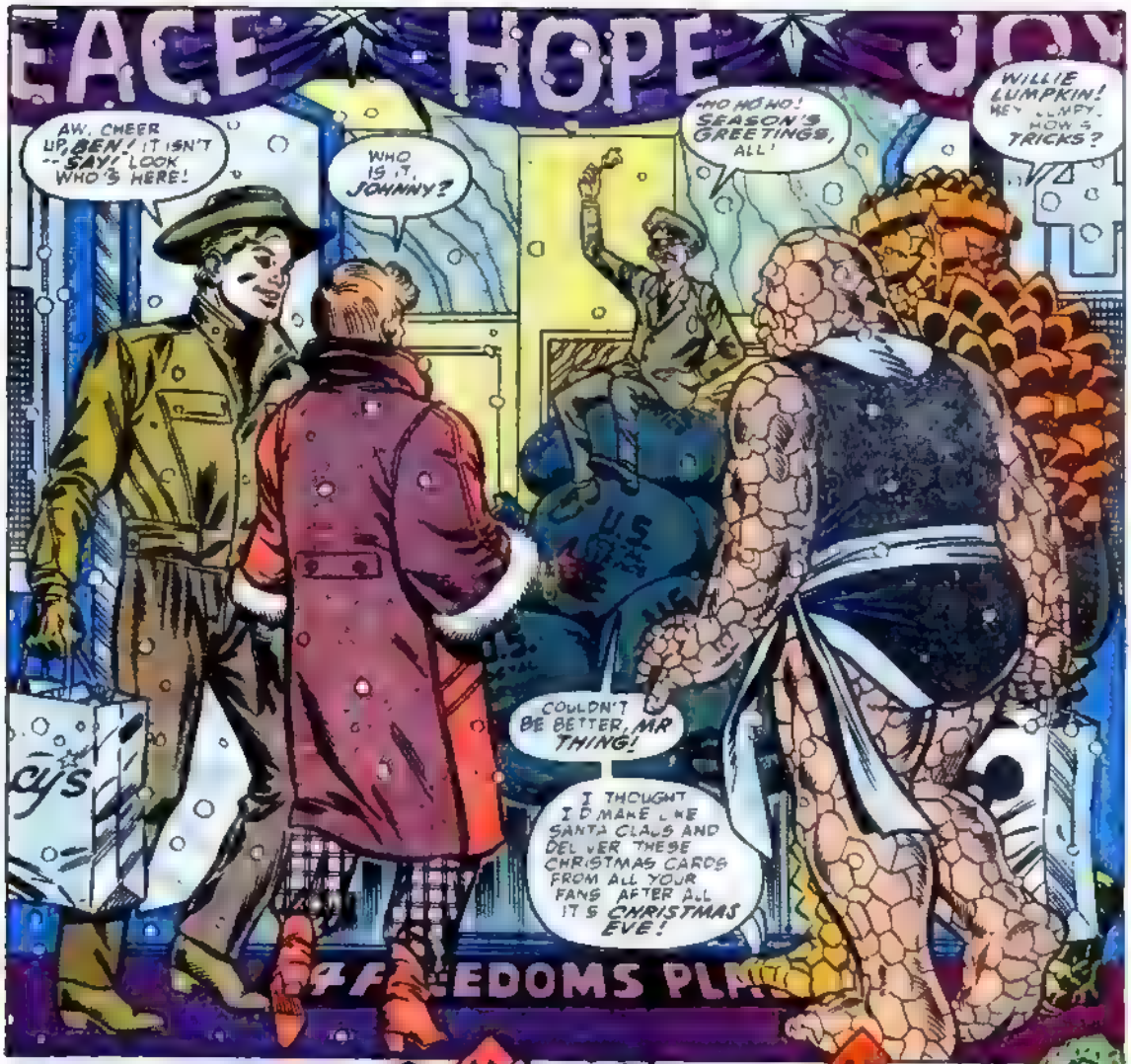

OH, WELL...
SORRY TO HAVE BENT YOUR EAR FOR SO LONG.
IT'S AFTER MIDNIGHT. GUESS I SHOULD SAY "MERRY CHRISTMAS," HUH?
SAME TA YOU, KID.
G'BYE.

WELL...
SEEING AS IT IS CHRISTMAS DAY, I GUESS THERE'S NOT MUCH POINT IN GOING TO BED BEFORE I OPEN MY PRESENTS

ANYWAY... I'VE BEEN DYING TO KNOW WHAT'S IN THIS BIG BOX FROM MARVEL...
OH. I SHOULD'VE GUESSED.

COMPLIMENTARY COPIES OF THE FIRST ISSUE OF MY BRAND NEW MAG...
...ON SALE SOON.
SHE-HULK
SHE-HULK
SHE-HULK
SHOULD'VE KNOWN THEY'D BE TOO CHEAP TO POP FOR A REAL PRESENT.

HOW ABOUT THAT, KIDS? YOU JUST READ EIGHT PAGES OF HYPE FOR A NEW COMIC!
OH, WELL...
MERRY CHRISTMAS! AND SEE YOU IN 1984!
The End


EACE HOPE JOY
AW, CHEER UP, BEN! IT ISN'T -- SAY! LOOK WHO'S HERE!
WHO IS IT, JOHNNY?
-HO HO HO! SEASON'S GREETINGS, ALL!
WILLIE LUMPKIN! HEY LUMPY, HOW'S TRICKS?
COULDN'T BE BETTER, MR THING!
I THOUGHT I'D MAKE THE SANTA CLAUS AND DELIVER THESE CHRISTMAS CARDS FROM ALL YOUR FANS AFTER ALL IT'S CHRISTMAS EVE!
FREEDOMS PLA

WILLIE LUMPKIN IN A Christmas Card

HAW! I CAN ALWAYS TELL WHEN YOU'RE LYIN'-- YOUR EARS WIGGLE!
OKAY, OKAY! A BUNCH OF THE OTHER GUYS HELPED. BUT I STUCK AROUND TO WISH YOU ALL GOOD TIDINGS!

SAY, LUMPY-- WHY DON'TCHA STOP BY TOMORROW FOR SOME HOLIDAY CHEER?
OH, NO THANK YOU, MR THING. REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED THE LAST TIME I TOOK YOU UP ON AN OFFER LIKE THAT?

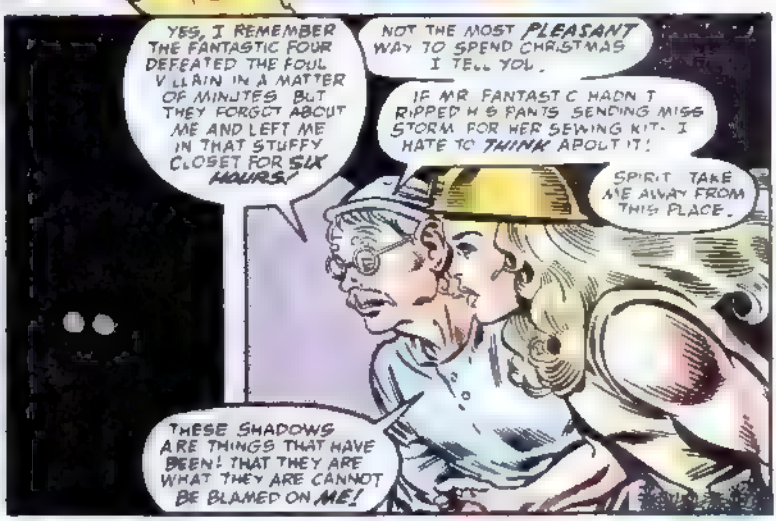
I HAVE AN IDEA - ! WHY DON'T YOU STOP BY MY PLACE? MY NEPHEW'S FAMILY WILL BE THERE AND THEY'RE DYING TO MEET YOU! HERE'S THE ADDRESS!
SOUNDS GREAT, LUMPY! AND A WHOLE LOT SAFER THAN CHRISTMAS IN THIS PLACE!
♪ JINGLE BELLS ♪ JINGLE BELLS ♪ JINGLE ALL THE WAY ♪
IT'S SETTLED THEN I'LL SEE YOU TOMORROW MORNING NOW I'VE GOT TO GET READY!
WHAT A NICE OLD GUY!
SO THIS IS THE ADDRESS OF THE WISERLY DEBEN ERATE THAT I MUST REDEEM THIS EVENING
SOMETIMES THIS CITY CAN BE SO CONFUSING IT'S A GOOD THING I DON'T HAVE TO RELY UPON PUBLIC TRANSPOR-
J. JONAH JAMESON 129 EAST 75TH STREET
WHOOPS!
FWOOSH
DARN THESE URBAN WIND SHEARS! THERE GOES MY CLIENT'S ADDRESS... LOST TO THE STORM!
NO PROBLEM! I REMEMBER WHERE HE LIVES!
I THINK!
THEN WHY DO THEY NOT DO SO AND DECREASE THE SURPLUS POPULATION?
THAT MAGOO, WHAT AN ACTOR. ZZZZZZZ.
BONG BONG BONG BONG BONG BONG BONG BONG BONG BONG BONG BONG
AWAKEN AND ARISE, MUNDANE DEGENERATE! THE HOUR OF YOUR REDEMPTION IS NIGH!
WHO?
YAAH!

I AM THE GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST!
I--I KINDA FIGURED THAT. B-BUT WHAT IS YOUR C-CONCERN WITH ME?
YOUR WELFARE! TO HELP YOU ESCAPE YOUR CONTEMPTIBLE FATE AND RECLAIM YOUR IMMORTAL SOUL. TAKE HEED!
T-THERE MUST BE SOME MISTAKE!
THAT'S WHAT THEY ALL SAY! RISE AND WALK WITH ME!
YOU SEEM A WELCOME PASSENGER DEGENERATE! YOU DO NOT FEAR TRAVELING ON THE WINGS OF THE WIND?
NAW I DO IT ALL THE TIME WITH THE TORCH!
SPEAKING OF TIME--
--WELCOME TO YOUR PAST. REMEMBER, THESE ARE BUT SHADOWS - NO ONE CAN SEE OR HEAR YOU!
WELCOME TO GLENVILLE NEBRASKA POP 437
GOOD HEAVENS! I WAS RAISED HERE! AND OVER THERE--
--WHY IT'S MY PAL CHARLIE BOOMER AND MY OLD SWEETHEART LILA BROWN! AND--IS THAT ME??
HAVE WE EVER MISSED OUR TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS EVE GIFT SWAPPING RENDEZVOUS BOOMER?
G'AFTERNOON, CUDDLES HIYA, LUMPY GLAD YA BOTH MADE IT!
EVER SINCE WILLIE SUGGESTED THAT WE MEET EACH YEAR AT THE OLD OAK TREE TO EXCHANGE GIFTS, I'VE LOOKED FORWARD TO IT WITH BATED BREATH!
AND TO THINK THAT WE OWE IT ALL TO MY FAVORITE LITTLE MAILMAN!
WELL, SINCE IT WAS MY IDEA, I SHOULD BE FIRST TO DELIVER MY SURPRISES!
LEMME GUESS--STAMP COLLECTING GIFT SETS, RIGHT?
AWW, HOW'D YOU KNOW?
BECAUSE, SWEETY, IT'S THE SAME THING YOU GET US EVERY YEAR!
NOW LET'S TELL LUMPY ABOUT OUR LITTLE SURPRISE!
OH, WILLIE! YOU'LL BE SO HAPPY! IT'S THE BEST CHRISTMAS PRESENT EVER!
BOOMER AND I ARE GETTING MARRIED!
TO EACH OTHER??
BUT WHAT ABOUT US, CUDDLES??

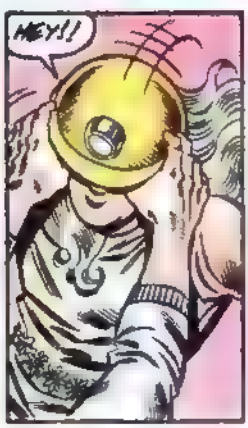
OH, DEAR WILLIE, YOU NEVER EXPECTED ME TO SPEND THE REST OF MY LIFE WITH A CHILD WHOSE ONLY AMBITION IS TO BECOME A MAILMAN IN SOME BIG CITY, DID YOU?
I NEED SOMEONE WITH BIGGER GOALS. BOOMER HERE WANTS TO BECOME POST-MASTER GENERAL!
MERRY CHRISTMAS LUMPY!
HE'S SUCH A NICE LITTLE MAN, ISN'T HE?
SPIRIT, SHOW ME NO MORE. CONDUCT ME HOME. WHY DO YOU DELIGHT IN TORTURING ME? WHAT HAS THIS EPISODE TAUGHT ME?
ONE SHADOW MORE.
TWINK
WELL, AT LEAST WE'RE BACK IN MANHATTAN!
SAY I RECOGNIZE THAT PLACE
..IT'S THE BAXTER BUILDING, WHERE THE ORIGINAL FANTASTIC FOUR USED TO LIVE!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THING WHEN HE WASN'T QUITE SO-
..HEY, HOW'S TRICKS? STILL TRYIN' TA PET TION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE OL' F.F.?
NOT TODAY, MR THING! I DECIDED TO ACCEPT MR FANTASTIC'S INVITATION TO DROP BY. I'VE GOT GIFTS FOR ALL OF YOU IN MY MAILBAG!
C'MON IN LUMPY!
HEY STRETCH! LOOK WHO'S HERE -- OL' SANTY CLAUS HIMSELF!
GOOD AFTERNOON, MR LUMPKIN. SUE, WOULD YOU PLEASE MAKE OUR GUEST COMFORTABLE WHILE I PUT THE FINISHING TOUCHES ON OUR MAKESHIFT CHRISTMAS TREE!
HEY S'S, THESE POWERS SURE WOULD'VE BEEN HANDY FOR DECORATING OUR OLD FAMILY TREE EH?
GOSH
SURE, JOHNNY BUT I DON'T THINK DAD WOULD'VE APPRECIATED A POGO PLANE IN OUR LIVING ROOM!
SOME MULLED CIDER MR LUMPKIN?

DON'T MIND IF I DO, MISS STORM. I,
Eh?
HOLY!
BAROOOM
BY ORDER OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL OF THE SKRULL EMPIRE PREPARE TO MEET YOUR DOOMS AT THE HANDS OF--
--THE SUPER-SKRULL!
YIPES!
AND I JUST HAD MY HAIR DONE!

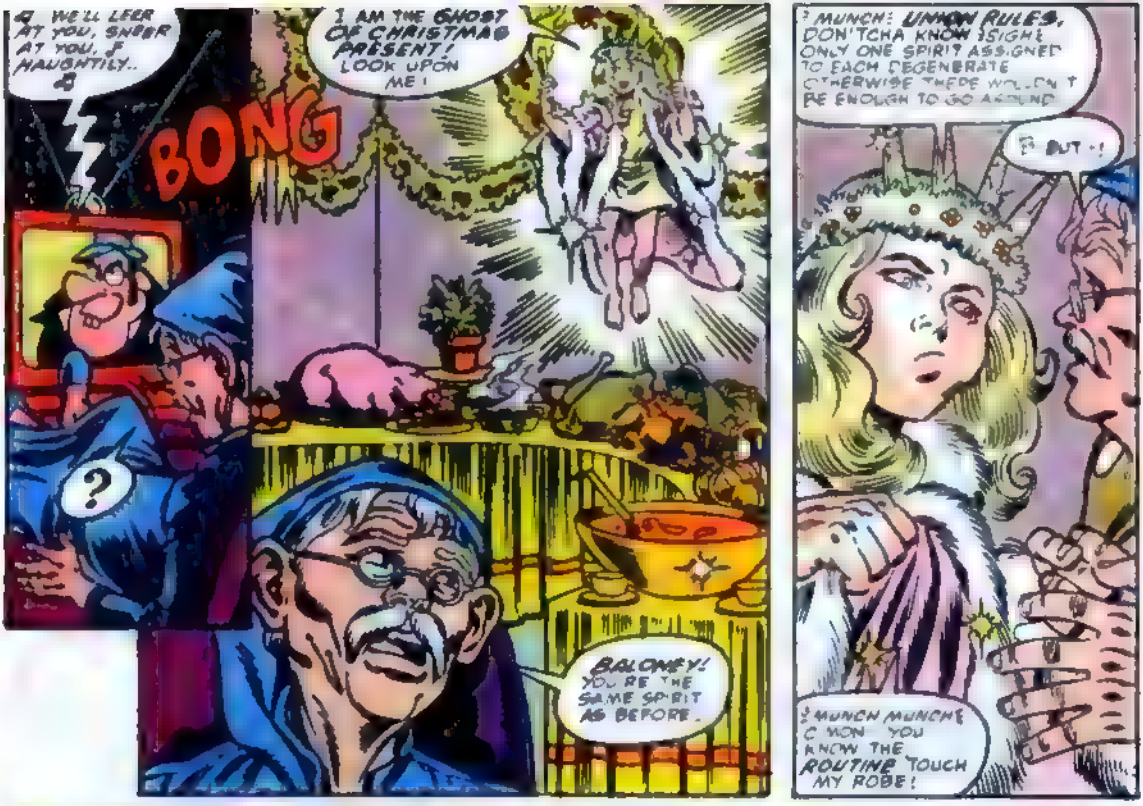
COME WITH ME MR LUMPKIN. YOU'LL BE SAFE IN THIS REINFORCED CLOSET UNTIL WE CAN DISPOSE OF THIS MENACE!
I'M SORRY THIS HAD TO HAPPEN TO YOU ON CHRISTMAS EVE YOU'RE SO NICE
?!


YES, I REMEMBER THE FANTASTIC FOUR DEFEATED THE FOUL VILLAIN IN A MATTER OF MINUTES BUT THEY FORGOT ABOUT ME AND LEFT ME IN THAT STUFFY CLOSET FOR SIX HOURS!
NOT THE MOST PLEASANT WAY TO SPEND CHRISTMAS I TELL YOU.
IF MR FANTASTIC HADN'T RIPPED HIS PANTS SENDING MISS STORM FOR HER SEWING KIT- I HATE TO THINK ABOUT IT!
SPIRIT TAKE ME AWAY FROM THIS PLACE.
THESE SHADOWS ARE THINGS THAT HAVE BEEN! THAT THEY ARE WHAT THEY ARE CANNOT BE BLAMED ON ME!

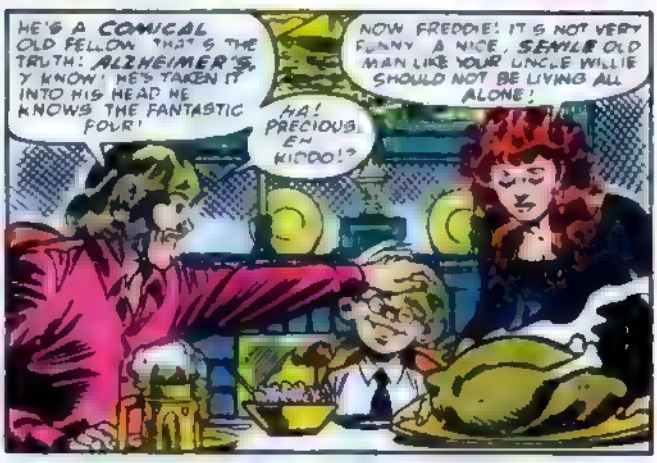
REMOVE ME, I CANNOT BEAR IT! TAKE ME BACK! HAUNT ME NO LONGER!

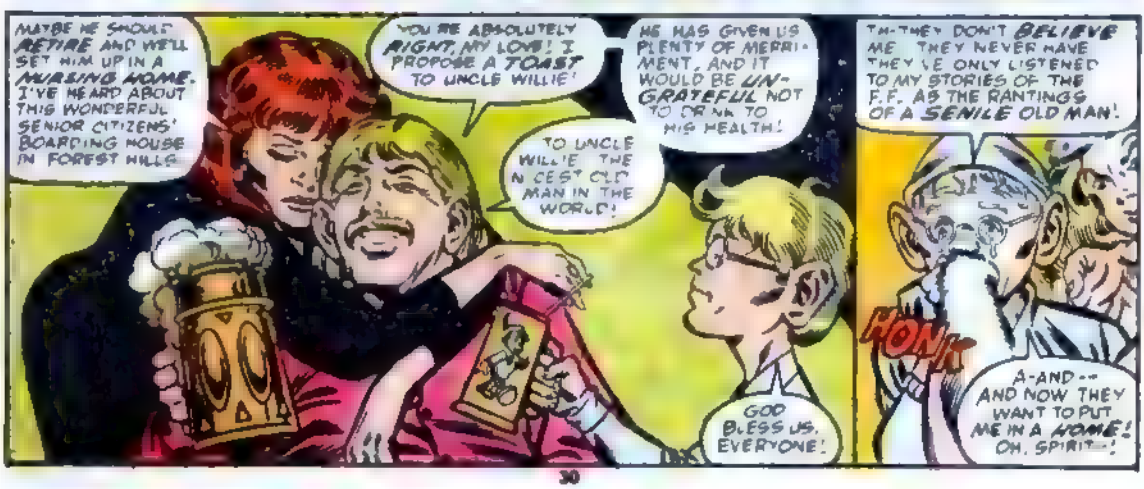

HEY!!

THWOP


WE'LL LEER AT YOU, SNEER AT YOU, & HAUGHTILY..
BONG
I AM THE GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT! LOOK UPON ME!
?
BALONEY! YOU'RE THE SAME SPIRIT AS BEFORE.
MUNCH! UNION RULES, DON'TCHA KNOW! SIGHT ONLY ONE SPIRIT ASSIGNED TO EACH DEGENERATE OTHERWISE THERE WILL'DN'T BE ENOUGH TO GO AROUND
BUT--!
MUNCH MUNCH! C'MON--YOU KNOW THE ROUTINE! TOUCH MY ROBE!

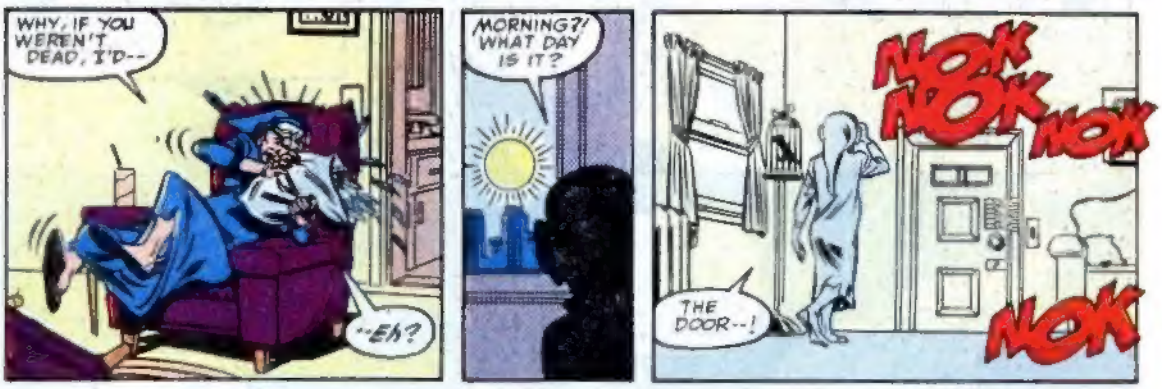
HA HA HA! AND THEN HE TOLD ME THE FANTASTIC FOUR WILL BE JOINING US FOR CHRISTMAS DINNER!
WHY THAT'S MY NEPHEW, FREDDIE LUMPKIN! WHAT BRINGS US HERE!


HE'S A COMICAL OLD FELLOW THAT'S THE TRUTH: ALZHEIMER'S, Y KNOW! HE'S TAKEN IT INTO HIS HEAD HE KNOWS THE FANTASTIC FOUR!
NOW FREDDIE! IT'S NOT VERY FUNNY A NICE, SENILE OLD MAN LIKE YOUR UNCLE WILLIE SHOULD NOT BE LIVING ALL ALONE!
HA! PRECIOUS, EH KIDDO!?


MAYBE HE SHOULD RETIRE AND WE'LL SET HIM UP IN A NURSING HOME. I'VE HEARD ABOUT THIS WONDERFUL SENIOR CITIZENS' BOARDING HOUSE IN FOREST HILLS
YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY RIGHT, MY LOVE! I PROPOSE A TOAST TO UNCLE WILLIE!
TO UNCLE WILLIE THE N CEST OLD MAN IN THE WORLD!
HE HAS GIVEN US PLENTY OF MERRI- MENT, AND IT WOULD BE UN- GRATEFUL NOT TO DRINK TO HIS HEALTH!
GOD BLESS US, EVERYONE!
TH-THEY DON'T BELIEVE ME. THEY NEVER HAVE. THEY'VE ONLY LISTENED TO MY STORIES OF THE F.F. AS THE RANTINGS OF A SENILE OLD MAN!
HONK
A-AND-- AND NOW THEY WANT TO PUT ME IN A HOME! OH, SPIRIT--!

BONG BONG
:GASP!:
SPIRIT!
OH, DARK SPECTER, I FEAR YOU MORE THAN ANYTHING I HAVE EVER SEEN!
I DO NOT KNOW W-WHY YOU HAVE CHOSEN TO PLAGUE ME THIS EVENING, BUT I AM PREPARED TO BEAR YOUR COMPANY WITH A THANKFUL HEART!
IT'S ONLY ME--PRETTY SCARY, HUH? I'M THE GHOST OF CHRISTMAS YET TO COME!
LET'S GO!
BEHOLD, DEGENERATE, THAT WHICH NO MAN EVER WITNESSES-- HIS OWN FUNERAL!
AND SO IT ENDS!
CRYSTAL... WHAT'S WRONG?
HERE LIES WILLIE LUMPKIN 1919-1989 THE NICEST MAN ON EARTH "ALWAYS USE ZIP CODE."
GOD BLESS US EVERY-ONE!
OH, JOHNNY! I CAN'T HELP FEELING RESPON-SIBLE FOR WHAT HAPPENED! IF IT WASN'T FOR LOCKJAW--

I DIED FROM LOCKJAW? I THOUGHT THEY HAD A CURE FOR THAT!
SSAHH! LISTEN...
IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT, CRYS. WILLIE REALIZED THE HAZARDS OF BEING A MAILMAN, INCLUDING THOSE OF CANINE CONFRONTATIONS!
WILLIE'S HEART MUST HAVE GIVEN OUT WHEN HE ENCOUNTERED LOCKJAW IN OUR LOBBY!
BECAUSE LOCKJAW IS NO ORDINARY DOG--
A DOG!! I WAS KILLED BY A DOG?!
SPIRIT-- WHAT WAS I TO LEARN FROM THESE VISIONS THIS EVENING??
THESE SHADOWS WERE TO TEACH YOU TO HONOR CHRISTMAS IN YOUR HEART AND KEEP IT ALL THE YEAR LONG!
HAVEN'T YOU BEEN PAYING ATTENTION? WILLIE LUMPKIN-- NICEST MAN ON EARTH! THAT'S ME!
HMMM... METHINKS I HAVE ERRED GRIEVOUSLY!
YOU ARE FREE TO GO! SORRY!
"SORRY"?


WHY, IF YOU WEREN'T DEAD, I'D--
--EH?
MORNING?! WHAT DAY IS IT?
NOK NOK NOK
THE DOOR--!
NOK

MERRY CHRISTMAS, WILLIE!
BAH, HUMBUG!!
SLAM
THE END... (HAPPY HOLIDAYS ANYWAY!)

MARVEL® READERS PRESENT

EDITOR: TERRY KAVANAGH ASSISTANT EDITOR: MICHAEL ROCKWITZ
% MARVEL COMICS GROUP, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK N.Y 10016
Attention correspondents: if you don't want your full address printed, please be sure to tell us so!

Dear Marvel,

I LOVE THIS SERIES!!! It has four great stories in every issue. And, what's even better, it comes out every fourteen days! This way, no one could possibly lose interest.

I just picked up #9 and can hardly wait to see how the Wolverine story ends up in #10. The Man-Thing story was great. I can't wait to see how that one ends up either.

I would like to see some stories with Spider-Man, the Punisher, Captain Britain, Rocket Raccoon and maybe Galactus. I think you guys are doing a great job.

Mark Vanderbrook
Rt. 1 Box 323
Marrero, LA

Hey, we're glad you like the book, Mark. And we hope you like the way that the Wolverine saga turned out. Now, as for your suggestions on which characters we should spotlight here in MCP -- Well, as a matter of fact, there will be a Captain Britain story in the near future. He'll be spotlighted along with the rest of the gang from EXCALIBUR in upcoming issues. We have no plans for Rocket Raccoon or Galactus stories right now, but who knows? Your letter may have sparked interest for some. As for the Punisher and Spider-Man, those guys aren't likely to get stories here since they have multitudes of other books to work out of (five titles between them!), sorry!

Dear Marvel,

I don't know exactly how much you listen to your readers, but I'm going to give a few comments and suggestions for MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS anyway:

1) Is there going to be a letters page?

2) Okay, I guess I don't mind too much an X-Man being in every issue (The Wolverine story was excellent, and the Colossus story looks promising, by the way), but could you alternate the front covers, and spotlight a different feature every issue.

3) I haven't cared for the one part stories so far. I just don't think there's much you can do with them in just eight pages. So I vote for four continuing series at all times, with maybe the occasional one-parter.

4) I liked the Master of Kung Fu story, and the Man-Thing saga is coming out nicely. I also read the Black Panther has a story coming up (I really enjoyed his mini-series by the way). Other features I would like to see are Ka-Zar, Hercules, the Inhumans, Rick Jones, Red Wolf, Ant-Man, and probably a dozen or two others I can't think of at the moment.

5) How about creating a new hero or two to make their debut in MCP?

Well anyway, for the most part, I've enjoyed this mag so far, but I think there's still some room for improvement. So, in closing, good luck, and thanks for listening.

William Blevins
Ferndale, MI

Thank *you*, William, for telling us what you think. Now we'll try to respond to your comments:

1) Yes, this is the third one, and we'll try to have one in every subsequent issue.

2) We are trying to do that now, too. So look for it!!!

3) Well, you seem to be in disagreement with a lot of people on this one. We feel that there are so many characters to be spotlighted, that some of the less major characters can only be seen in single installments in order to make room for all of them. Most of our readers like this idea. But, of course, if enough readers tell us they want to see more of a certain character (like, say, Le Peregrine or Annihilus, just to name two), we'll try to accommodate them with a longer series.

4) Since you've written your letter, there has been an Ant-Man story as well as a Red Wolf story. We hope you were able to check them out.

5) That's a good idea, and very possible!

Dear Terry,

I just finished reading MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #10 and I felt compelled to write you immediately and tell you what I thought.

First of all, I'm sorry to see that "Save the Tiger" has ended. I thoroughly enjoyed this series. Chris really did a fine job with this one. Tyger Tiger is a great character, and I hope to see more of her in the future (oh man, I still can't believe how she finished Roche off -- pretty nasty!). I'm glad that her and Wolverine remained allies at the end. They make a great team. Sapphire Styx was a really good villainess too. I'll bet we haven't seen the last of her, either! Throughout the series, I was impressed by the team of John Buscema and Klaus Janson. To me, this team does the quintessential Wolverine. I hope to see more collaborations between them in the future. All in all, this was my favorite saga so far in MCP.

That isn't to say that I don't enjoy "Elements of Terror", too. How can anyone not like Tom Sutton's artwork. Those new super soldiers really do look nasty, especially Colonel Choate. I hope you guys have some more work lined up for Tom after this book ends. Steve Gerber is also a fine writer. Even though I was somewhat confused with all of the characters earlier in the run, I'm glad now that I stuck with this very enjoyable story.

Speaking of confusing, I think I liked the Machine Man story, even though I'm not really sure what went on. Now don't get me wrong, I've been a fan of Steve Ditko's for years, and I think his work on SPEEDBALL is great, but I thought this story was a little choppy. The scripter, Mike Rockwitz (who I guess is also the assistant editor on the book) did a fine job with what he had to work with. While reading it, I noticed a Tom DeFalcoesque style running through the story. Being a big admirer of Tom's work, I thought this added to the story and made things like the quick scene changes less confusing. But guys, I have to tell you something, the Failure Five was a pretty weak idea for a villain. The negative comments aside, though, I thought this was an amusing story.

Now one story I really think is promising is the "God's Country" saga. Ann Nocenti is one of the best new talents you guys have! I really enjoy DARE-DEVIL, and the LONGSHOT limited series was great (hey, will we ever see him in his own book again?)! She writes a really good Colossus, guys. If the first issue is any indication, I'd say this is gonna be a good one. It's great to see Rick Leonardi's stuff again. And, if that wasn't good enough, you have P. Craig Russell over him. Good going! This art team is phenomenal! I have a question, though, why is Colossus here somewhere in the mid-west? Couldn't he think of any better place to go?

Well all I can say now is keep up the great work. Everyone associated with MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS is doing a really nice job. Hey, I'd love to hear from anyone else out there who'd care to write me! It gets lonely up here in Albany!

Hidalgo Nagashima
Box1023
SUNY at Albany
Albany, NY 12222

Peter just wanted to travel to the heart of America, Hidalgo. Being a farmer himself, he felt that he could most identify with these people. As you see now, things didn't go exactly as well as he'd originally hoped! Oh yeah, we also have to add that Assistant Editor *Mike Rockwitz* thanks you for your kind words. He's glad someone finally noticed his writing talents. If you want to see more, he and *Steve Ditko* have teamed up on other stories as well. He has also colored various stories in this very comic! Look for them, you won't be sorry! (Is that good enough of a plug for you, Mike?!?)

THE HUMAN TORCH
JUNGLE ACTION GAME
FEATURING
WILLIE LUMPKIN
U.S.MAIL